JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 13, 1924. Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper. Postage in U.K. or Abroad, ½d.

JOHN BULL

Vol. XXXVI. No. 967 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1924. TWOPENCE.

XMAS BARGAIN GIFTS

Turn to Page 24

OUR XMAS GIFT TO YOU
See page 24

NET PAID SALES EXCEED 350,000 COPIES WEEKLY

LIFE BEYOND THE VEIL

by A. G. GARDINER

Be ready for a "Bovril Winter"

Lowered vitality, through lack of summer sunshine, will make a supply of Bovril essential this winter.

Bovril keeps people well by building up their power to resist influenza, colds and other winter ills.

Bovril re-creates health by renewing strength lost during illness.

Health depends upon efficient nutrition. The body-building powers of Bovril have been proved, by independent scientific tests on human beings, to be from 10 to 20 times the amount of Bovril taken.

Always keep Bovril in the House

GRAVES GRAMOPHONES

are unrivalled for Quality and Value.

DELIVERED (either Hornless or Horn Model, as desired) carriage paid to approved orders for **5/** with order. If you are satisfied with the machine after trial in your home, the balance is payable in monthly payments of **5/-** Money refunded in full if you are disappointed.

GRAVES HORNLESS GRAMOPHONE has Cabinet of selected oak (size 16½x14x7½in). Powerful Motor & super-excellent Reproducer **£3:10:0**

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Psoriasis, Eczema, bad Legs, and all skin diseases completely and permanently cured by **KUREM HOME TREATMENT**, famous over 30 years. Entirely herbal, inexpensive, yet cures when doctors and hospitals fail. Send post-card for free book, which tells you how to begin your own certain cure at home. J. Robinson & Sons, 11, Kurem House, Bradford.

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NEVER EXIST TOGETHER!

Miss . . writes: "I do not wish my name to be published, but will thankfully state that after months of intense suffering from Neuritis, Esmolin afforded speedy relief. One bottle and a half entirely cured me." The original of this and hundreds of similar letters open to inspection.

SPECIAL "No Relief, No Pay" OFFER.

Purchase (from chemist or direct) a 3/- bottle of ESMOLIN. Use half, and if you are not benefited return the unused portion and we will refund your money IN FULL. Small bottles 1/3. Of all Chemists, or post free direct from THE ESMOLIN CO., Ltd., 110, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.

ESMOLIN KILLS NEURITIS

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FIRE up to £400.

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HEREFORD.—Mrs. E. M. WATTS, 43, Breinton Avenue.
ABERDEEN.—E. WILLIAMS, 447, Great Northern Road, Woodside.
BRADFORD.—C. HAINSWORTH, 52, Beverley Street, Laisterdyke.
WARRINGTON.—J. W. HIGHFIELD, 7, Gaskell Street, Stockton Heath.
STREET, SOMERSET.—Mr. H. A. EDWARDS, 101, High Street.
LUTON, BEDS.—A. PARSONS, 32, Chase Street.
SMALL HEATH, BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. McDONALD, 6, Mona Road.
BIRMINGHAM.—E. RANDALL, "Clovelly," Roberts Road, Acocks Green.
ECCLESFIELD, Nr. SHEFFIELD.—E. TURTON, 22, Tower End Road.
MAESTEG, GLAM.—J. JONES, 23, Meadow Street.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—R. W. McGUIRE, 61, Mansfield Street.
GREENOCK.—Mrs. M. CAMPBELL, 9, Mill Street.
DEVONPORT, PLYMOUTH.—F. HARVEY, 21, Pembroke Street.
NEATH.—Mrs. M. KNIGHT, 13, Coronation Road.
FIFE.—T. HENDERSON, 9, Dundonald Den, By Cardenden.
MANCHESTER.—Mrs. A. VEAR, 18, Seddon Street, Moss Side.
ELLESMERE PORT, CHESHIRE.—W. D. FARRINGTON, 141, Cambridge Road.
LIVERPOOL.—Mrs. C. BEAUMONT, 89, Warwick Street.
HURLFORD, AYRSHIRE.—R. BLACKWOOD, Glaston Road.
THURNSCOE, Nr. ROTHERHAM.—Mrs. A. SOUTHWARD, 4, Chapel Street.
HAYDOCK, Nr. ST. HELENS, LANCS.—S. FAIRCLOUGH, 165, Park Street.
SOUTH TOTTENHAM, N.15. — Mrs. WRENCH, 151, Tewkesbury Road.
DARLINGTON.—Mrs. M. WATSON, 49, Katherine Street.
BATTERSEA, S.W.11.—Mrs. C. HAGGIS, 8, Sewell Road.
CARDIFF.—G. T. HAWKES, 30, New Zealand Road, Gabalfa.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. F. BOTTRELL, 2/17, Gt. Tindal Street, Ladywood.
PLYMOUTH.—Mrs. M. C. DONOVAN, 10, Carlton Terrace, Eldad.

STORM—FLOODS up to £300.

GLOUCESTER.—T. JENKINS, Chain Gate Road, Iron Acton.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Miss E. A. STODDERN, 2, Neptune Row, Mill Pool.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. E. WILKINS, 3, Neptune Row, Mill Pool.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. A. L. M. SIBLEY, 3, Albion Place.
OLD STREET, E.C. 2.—J. LYONS, 13, Welsh Street.
OLDHAM.—Mrs. H. COLLIN, 162, Old Lane, Hollinwood.
PORT TALBOT, GLAM.—P. SUTTON, 5, Melyn Street, Glyncorrwg.
PRESTON, LANCS.—WM. BEARDSWORTH, 311, Ribbleton Lane.
PERRANPORTH, CORNWALL.—J. H. MENADUE, 5, Eureka Vale.
ANNAN, DUMFRIES.—J. LITTLE, 9, Butts Street.
TREORCHY, RHONDDA, GLAM.—G. DIXON, 26, Glynrhondda Street.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. A. HESTER, Barley Sheaf Hotel, Old Bridge Street.
PERRANPORTH, CORNWALL.—F. LAVIN, Bolingey Vale.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. E. DRAYTON, 2, Moresk Place.
ST. BLAZEY, PAR STATION, CORNWALL.—R. GOODMAN, 75, Station Road.
ST. BLAZEY, CORNWALL.—E. E. CARBIVICK, 47, Station Road.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. JAS. WOODMAN, 2, Tregolls Road.
LAUNCESTON, CORNWALL.—J. MATTHEWS, 6, Carlton House, Newport.
HUDDERSFIELD.—Mrs. L. CARNEY, 2, Harp Yard, Bradford Road.
AIRDRIE, LANARKSHIRE.—R. ROBB CRAWFORD, The Cottage, Greengairs.
LAUNCESTON, CORNWALL.—Mrs. A. GOULD, 2, Riverside, St. Thomas.
NAILSWORTH, GLOS.—S. BATHE, Brewery Road.
NAILSWORTH, GLOS.—H. H. SMITH, Britannia Hotel.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—S. GOOCH, 4, Neptune Row.

114 MORE BENEFITS PAID TO John Bull Readers TOTAL NOW 14101

TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. E. A. KINSMAN, 19, Moresk Road.
TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mrs. B. MAY, 1, Neptune Row, Mill Pool.
PENZANCE, CORNWALL.—T. BARNES, Newsagent, Strand, Newlyn W.
ST. ERTH, CORNWALL.—T. RUTTER, Bridge End.

Owing to lack of space we can publish only a few of the names of those readers who have received benefits this week.

SICKNESS BENEFITS — £5 5s.

—for total disablement by illness consequent upon Diphtheria, Measles, Smallpox, Typhoid Fever, Cerebro-Spinal Fever (or "Spotted Fever"), Anthrax and Tetanus (or Lockjaw).

GOOLE, YORKS.—Mrs. M. A. HUNT, 5, Spencer Street.
RICHMOND, YORKS.—J. McGUINESS, 5, Chapel Wynd.
EDINBURGH.—Mrs. R. T. HOOK, 108, McDonald Road.
SHEFFIELD.—H. WALKER, 10, Birks Avenue, Woodhouse.
ASHINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.—Mr. J. DUFF, 13, Duke Street.
BARNSLEY, YORKS.—Mrs. H. KENNERLEY, 85, Midland Crescent, Pontefract Road.
GRIMSBY.—Mr. A. HARGREAVES, 2, Harrison Street.
TAUNTON, SOMERSET.—Mrs. L. JORDAN, 15, Court, High Street.
SHEFFIELD.—Mr. E. PEARSON, 19, Calvert Terrace, Normanton Springs, Woodhouse.
SHEFFIELD.—Mr. A. BINGHAM, 79, Halifax Road, Wadsley Bridge.
MANCHESTER.—Mrs. E. ALCOCK, 22, Green Street, Withington.
MIDDLESBROUGH.—Mrs. M. BENNISON, 77, Portman Street.
CAMBERWELL, S.E.—Mr. B. A. BROWN, 1a, Marlowe Buildings, Wyndham Road.
STALHAM, NORFOLK.—Mr. J. ALDIS, Police Station.
HARDISLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.—Miss E. DAVIES, Knapp House.
STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—Mrs. W. TAYLOR, 136, Church Row, Framsden.
GAINSBOROUGH, LINCS.—Mr. H. E. HIRST, 19, Melrose Road.
STIRLING, SCOTLAND.—Mr. D. SMITH, 113, Red Row, Plean.
FULHAM, S.W.6.—Mrs. G. STANFIELD, 1, Waldemar Avenue.
GAINSBOROUGH, LINCS.—Mrs. F. HODGKINSON, 27, Nottingham Place.
UPTON ST. LEONARD, GLOUCESTER.—Mr. T. DAVIS, Retreat Cottage, High Street.
HURST, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—J. J. HYDE, 91, Hillgate Street.
BILSTON, STAFFS.—T. FULLWOOD, 22, Wood Street.
MANSFIELD, NOTTS.—Mr. J. CAMPTON, 14, Second Avenue, Forest Town.
WORKSOP, NOTTS.—Mr. W. ANDERSON, Lady Lee Garth, Hardsfields.
BILSTON, STAFFS.—Mr. J. RUSCOE, 20, Wood Street.
STAVELEY TOWN, CHESTERFIELD.—Mr. W. SELLERS, 8, Wateringbury Grove.

ACCIDENT BENEFITS £3 PER WEEK

BOLTON, LANCS.—Mrs. M. GREENHALGH, 52, Coe Street.
ST. ANDREWS, FIFE.—Mrs. M. KERR, 20, Market Street.
SELSTON, NOTTS.—WM. R. PEACH, "Fox and Owl," Inkerman.
WOLLASTON, STOURBRIDGE.—Mrs. E. M. ROBINS, 10, Firmstone Street.
CLYDACH VALE, RHONDDA.—W. J. BLOXSOME, 11, Under Marian Street.
STANWELL MOOR, Nr. STAINES, MIDDLESEX.—H. AVERY, Carcroft Cottages.
ATHERTON.—Mrs. M. E. MATHER, 273, Leigh Road, Howe Bridge.
NUTTALL, NOTTS.—Mrs. A. M. C. CHERRINGTON.
BROXBURN.—Mrs. J. LUMSDEN, 3, Kirkhill Road, West End.
MELTON MOWBRAY.—Mrs. M. J. WAGSTAFF, 2A, Sherrard Street.
WAVERTREE, LIVERPOOL.—Mrs. E. BENNETT, 27, Beech Tree Road.
ATTERCLIFFE, SHEFFIELD.—Mrs. M. C. CARLESS, 23, Sleaford Street.
CARDENDEN, FIFE.—Mrs. A. HENDERSON, 9, Dundonald Den.
HONITON, DEVON.—Mrs. E. M. CLARK, 1, Summerland.
LEYTONSTONE, E. 11.—Mrs. F. DAVIS, 95, Harrow Road.

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To "John Bull" Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.
I have sent an order form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

Reader's Name.....Age....
in full (CAPITAL LETTERS.)

Address.....

Reader's Signature.....

Name and Address of Newsagent.....

Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent on receipt of ½d. stamped addressed envelope.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B., 13/12/24.

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To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address.....

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Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature.....

Address.....

Date.....

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B., 13/12/24.

John Bull's Great Xmas Gift to You

Don't be too late! Turn to Page 24 NOW.

"John Bull" Guarantee

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee. You have the guarantee whether the article admits of a laboratory test or not.

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked—In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona fides of all advertisements in "John Bull."

Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

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Proprietors of "JOHN BULL"

PURE, THICK, RICH

NESTLÉ'S CREAM

Contains no Preservatives or Artificial Colouring.

No increased price—9½d., 11½d. & 1/7½d. per tin.

Labels admissible for Nestlé's £8,000 Competition.

Ask your grocer for details or send postcard to NESTLÉ'S LONDON, E.C.2

A FAMOUS OLD PORT

AND THREE XMAS GIFTS FREE!

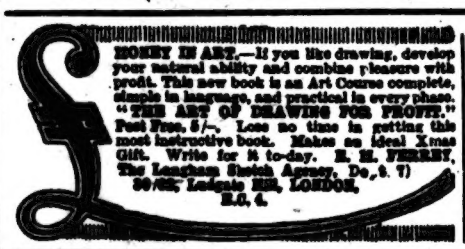
Don't Miss This Offer! Old Douro Port Wine needs no introduction to the connoisseur. Yet, incredible enough though it may seem we are actually offering this Old Port of rare character and exclusive bouquet at the surprisingly low figure of 24/- per dozen bottles. The finest value in Wine extant!

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR READERS of "JOHN BULL"

With each order received for 2 Dozen or upwards we shall present a handsome Fountain Pen with 14 ct. Gold Nib, and worth 10/6, together with Erinoid Desk Calendar and sample of "Sedna."

DEANS LOGAN & CO., LTD., Commercial Court, BELFAST

London Office: 24|25, Great Tower Street, E.C.3.



MONEY IN ART.—If you like drawing, develop your natural ability and combine pleasure with profit. This new book is an Art Course complete, simple in language, and practical in every phase. "THE ART OF DRAWING FOR PROFIT." Post Free, 5/-. Lose no time in getting this most instructive book. Makes an ideal Xmas Gift. Write for it to-day. H. M. PEARSE, The Landsham Sketch Agency, Dept. 7) 30/32, Lodgate Hill, LONDON, E.C. 4.

THE GREAT AMERICAN DIRIGIBLE

Performs like a big one. Keeps the children amused for hours.

Special Price POST FREE.

3 for 2/9
6 for 5/-
12 for 9/-

1/-

24 ins. Long, 5 ins. Diam.

C. HENRIQUES Co., Dept. J.B., 20, Bucklersbury, London, E.C.

YOURS for 6D.

Every reader of JOHN BULL who has or is going to have a wireless set should take this opportunity of obtaining a pair of these splendid headphones on our unheard-of bargain terms.

FREE.

Totally glass enclosed Crystal detector, ball jointed, patent screw crystal cup, complete with cat's whisker ready for mounting given free with headphones.

"BRIGHTONIA" HEADPHONES.

READ OUR BRIEF DESCRIPTION.

Genuine 4,000 ohms resistance "Brightonia" double headphones, heavily nickel-plated, fitted with adjustable headband in two sections, of the very latest and most comfortable type. Absolutely pure musical reception is assured by the laminated magnets and highly sensitive diaphragms of exceptional thinness and accurate adjustments. Altogether the finest head set ever offered, no matter at what price. Fully guaranteed 5 years.

OUR UNHEARD-OF TERMS.

We send a pair of these high quality headphones upon receipt of 6d. deposit. If satisfied, you send 2/6 more on receipt and the balance by instalments of 2/6 until only 22/6 is paid. Price 1st cash with order or within 7 days of receipt) 21/-. Send P.O. now to:—

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(Dept. 536), 94, Queen's Rd., Brighton, Sussex

Never have foot-troubles again

Do your feet ever feel hot and uncomfortable and your shoes too tight?

Do your feet ache sometimes if you get them wet?

Do you suffer pain from corns?

If you have any of these foot-troubles you can end them once and for all—by taking regular Radox Foot Baths twice or three times a week.

Radox Bath Salts super-charge lifeless tap-water with antiseptic, deodorising oxygen; and the four salts they contain greatly increase the cleansing property of the water so that the skin pores are stimulated to healthful activity. Skin secretions are discharged and dissolved by the water, and the pain drawn out of the feet. Even obstinate corns may be lifted out bodily with the fingers after a few baths.

The first time you have a Radox Foot Bath you will feel the tonic effect: your feet will feel cool, refreshed, and invigorated.

Radox Bath Salts are sold by most chemists in pink packets, price 1/6, double quantity 2/6. It is important to remember the name: there are no other bath salts like Radox. If you have any difficulty send remittance and a packet will be sent direct, post free.

1/6 *Half Pound Pink Packet*

RADOX

(RADIATES OXYGEN)

Bath Salts

Rheumatism and Uric Acid Troubles.

If you suffer from rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, gout, etc., you will find that total immersion in Radox Baths twice a week will do much to relieve these ailments.

E. GRIFFITHS HUGHES, LTD., 107, DEANSGATE ARCADE, MANCHESTER.

WHEN SENDING
Write your name and address in block letters. Give exact description of goods required. Send Money and Treasury Notes by registered post. Always mention JOHN BULL.

The Mail Order Market

A Perfect Postal Service for Bargain-Hunters.

YOUR PROTECTION. The JOHN BULL guarantee covers all offers in this section. You can send your money as safely as buying across a store counter, so post your order to-day.

PAY FOR YOUR XMAS SUIT AS YOU WEAR IT

GENTS' SUITS made to measure in the latest styles of cloth, perfectly tailored. Pay 10/- down and the rest in Easy Monthly Instalments, until you have paid in all **59/6**

Before placing your order elsewhere write for patterns and simple Self-Measurement Form.

J. B. THORNE & Co
36 LANGHAM ST., LONDON, W.1.

A 42/- PRESS SERVICE for 6/6

Of polished wood and with nickelled metal fittings. If with 4-fold plated fittings, 8/3 post fr. e. Ireland 3 f. extra for registration.

GIVE ONE TO YOUR FRIEND THIS XMAS.

Keep your trousers pressed and pressed to make them last longer and to give them that just-from-the-tailor look.

The "COOPER-KUT"

Compact. Light weight. Press in a minute. Best in the years. Outlive any other press. Two thumb-screws and patent grip give even pressure and hold-edge crease. Send for this extraordinary bargain. "John Bull" says:—"Splendid value." The Cooper Collapsible Box Co., Ltd. Trust 718 New Cleveland St. HULL.

Note: The Cooper Wall Hanger. Rack Guarantee includes return postage. If not satisfied in 7 days return it (if postage & cost of press refunded upon its return in good condition.

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"Greatest bargain ever advertised." Navy or Fawn, Double Breasted Trench Coats, rubber check lined, lame belt, buckle, over-lithdeal, lab. cuffs, comfortable, very lasting. Black also. Guaranteed: 34 to 42 ins. chest over vest; Ladies' sizes: 34, 36, 38 and 40 ins. length. Sent on approval P.O. 10s. 6d. and 5d. postage, or patterns free. Officers' genuine 4-bar Trench Coats, Fawn or Navy, 30s. 6d., postage 1s.

World's Record Bargain. Gent's Superior Quality BLUE MELTON OVERCOATS ready to wear. Velvet Collar. Double Breasted. Send P.O. for 20s. 6d. and 1s. postage, with chest measure over vest. Sizes, 34 to 42 ins. chest. Cash refunded if dissatisfied.

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YOU'LL LOOK SMART IN AN OFFICERS' TRENCH COAT 34/6

Luxurious BABY CARS

Almost HALF PRICE

Cash or Easy Payments. From 77/6

Approval Before Purchase.

With BALL BEARING WHEELS.

From 6½ Gns Complete.

Children's 'MARVEL' CYCLES Reduced from 39/6 to 39/6

Carriage paid.

Send small deposit NOW CALL OR WRITE FOR CATALOGUE

WHITEHEAD'S Baby Cars (Dept. J.) Salisbury St., Fleet St. E.C.4.

ASTOUNDING OFFER IN WIRELESS SETS AT MANUFACTURERS PRICES.

The "Bradshaw" is offered to you at the low price of 39/6. Highly efficient and thoroughly tested before leaving our works. Enclosed in handsomely polished Mahogany Cabinet, Ebonite Panel, and enclosed Detector, with special Crystal, guaranteed perfect reception over a range of 25 miles. Write now and secure this bargain. Only a limited quantity can be supplied at this reduced price.

A BARGAIN AT 39/6
Carriage and Packing, 1/6 extra.

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Be Lucky!

Tens of thousands of persons are firm believers in "luck." The possession of a mascot or "talisman" does seem to break a spell of bad luck and start the era of prosperity shining again. The "JU-JU" MASCOT—a replica of the Nigerian God of Luck—is already a firm favourite, the chosen talisman of thousands.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Hundreds of unsolicited testimonials. Get your JU-JU Now;

Sterling Silver, 5/- } Post
9ct. Gold, £1 } free.

JU-JU SOCIETY (Dept. J.B.)
Imperial Buildings, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Also from Gamage's, London.

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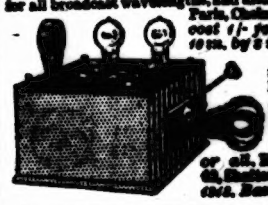
Guaranteed to receive wireless telephony up to at least 100 miles, sent to you for

£1 down *A special Xmas offer to John Bull readers.*

and 12 monthly payments of 10/6. Complete in every detail, with 60 volt H.T. battery, 4/60 accumulator, full emitter valves and aerial equipment; ISOLANITE coils for all broadcast wavelengths, and interchangeable coils for Paris, Chelmsford, &c. Upkeep cost 1/- for 4 weeks. Size, 10 ins. by 8 ins. by 7 ins. Finest materials throughout. EASY-READING CHART ARRIVES or MONEY BACK. Send 4/- to-day with 2/6 for post and packing, or all £1 to ARMAC CO., 44, Shaftesbury Ave., W.1. Est. 1912. Bankers: Westminster.



MEN'S HATS —BY POST

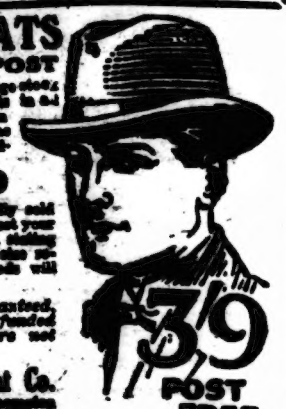
We have secured a large stock of Men's fine Felt Hats in all the latest shades in fashionable shapes, as sketch, also turned-down brims.

Packed in box. Post free, cash **3/9**

These hats are usually sold retail at 7/6 each. Post your order with remittance, stating shade, shape and the size required, and your goods will be sent by return.

Satisfaction guaranteed, or your money refunded in full if hats are not entirely satisfied.

British Men's Hat Co. (Dept. J.B.), 146a, Southampton Buildings, London, W.C.2.



3/9 POST FREE

"THE BOLTON"

DIRECT FROM FACTORY

Carriage Paid on approval
Ball-Bearing Tangent Cycle Wheels

£6:17:6

Beautifully Upholstered. Large and Roomy. Loose Cushions. Finest Materials and Finish throughout. The Lightest and Easiest Running Carriage made.

Hood: Better VICTORIA Car for sitting or lying down £2-17-6

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TAN GLOVES

Best Leather. Lined Wool.

Gents' Size 7 to 9½
Ladies' ,, 6 to 7 .

Per **7/6** Pair

POST PAID

These Gloves are of superior quality and are worth 10s. 6d. per pair.

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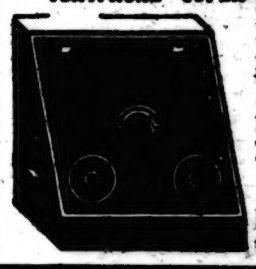
YOURS FOR 20/-

Send 20/- to-day, together with your order for the "Tonyphone" and this wonderful set, which receives all B.B.C. Stations, will be delivered complete, including all accessories. You pay a further £1 each month afterwards. The total cost is only £10 5s., or if you prefer, £14 5s. cash.

'TONYPHONE' SUPER TWO VALVER



Complete with Accumulator, H.T. Battery, Aerial, 1 pair 4000 ohms Headphones and two Valves—one High Frequency and one Detector. All Royal fees paid. Send to-day and enjoy broadcasting NOW.

TONYPHONE BROADCASTING PRODUCTS CO. Engineering Dept., Victoria House, Victoria St., London, W.1.

3/9 Post Paid DELIGHTFUL GIFTS.

Useful and Ornamental E.P.N.S. ware at worthy prices.

Real Silver on White Nickel—hand finished. China Preserve Dish—Glass Bottle Crust.

5/6 Post Paid

Send P.O. Now. Cash refunded if not entirely satisfied. Unstamped P.C. for list of E.P.N.S. Xmas Gifts.

The P.B. SERVICE CO.
231, Highgate Road, BIRMINGHAM.

THE GREATEST BARGAIN OF ALL IS GOOD HEALTH

RADIO ACTIVITY

5/6 Per pair Post Free Radiograph.

Restores PERMANENTLY with you if you wear

RADIOMITE INSOLES (Patented).

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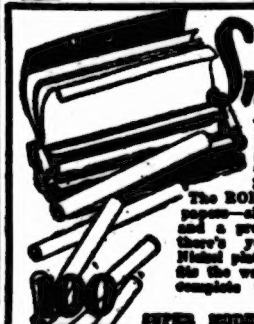

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PILES, SORES, and all SKIN DISEASES. YROC, the Wonder Cure of an Age-Old Italian Monastery. Amazing results. 1/3 oz. tin proves it.—May Garland Co., 10, Hornsey Rise, London, N.19.

"PARKER'S REMEDY."—The great new cure for Bladder Weakness. 3/- bottle at Boots' or post free from Parker's Remedy Co., 18, James St., Liverpool. Write for particulars.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

"SIXTY-FOUR-PAGE BOOK about Herbs and how to use them, 2d. Send for one.—Trimnell, The Herbalist, Richmond Road, Cardiff.

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Vol. XXXVI. No. 967.
Week ending Saturday,
Dec. 13, 1924. Twopence.

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This Week—

Special Articles by:

The Right Hon. T. J. Macnamara on "Five Grim Shadows." ... ... p. 13
Dr. R. J. Campbell .. .. .., ... p. 9
Harrison Owen .. .. p. 14
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Emanuel Shinwell (ex-Mines Minister) .. p. 21
Major Reginald F. E. Austin .. .. .. p. 21
Mabel Herner .. .. p. 25

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Open the Throttle Wide—

Now that Parliament has reassembled, M.P.s should bear in mind that the eyes of the whole nation are on Westminster. They have been sent there to work.

—And Get Busy!

The country wants deeds. Talk is at a discount. Instant decisions, boldly carried into effect, are the only things that will save Parliament from falling into final disrepute.

No Puzzle.

Says Mr. Ward Price, "What will happen if the Conservatives disappoint the nation?" Easy! There will be a Labour Government returned next time with an equally smashing majority.

Slow Starting.

It is clear that no effective start can be made by the Royal Commission on Food Prices before the New Year. And Christmas will pass without anything being done—except the people.

The Smoke Screen.

Meanwhile the Press is very busy warning us not to expect any drastic reduction in the cost of living as the result of the enquiry. The Government, however, would do well to remember that this is precisely what we *do* expect.

Cut Out the Waste.

It is intolerable that the cost of common commodities should still be 80 per cent. dearer than before the war. The profiteer must be sought out and eliminated.

We Score Again.

We are glad to see that our suggestion of a public enquiry has been adopted. With the facts before it, public opinion will soon force the necessary legislation.

Some Problem!

Mr. Baldwin is pledged to give effect to the suspended Imperial Preference proposals. He is also pledged not to tax food. Such a problem makes a cross word puzzle look easy by comparison!

Same Old Cry.

The proposal for an agricultural conference is seriously jeopardised by the blunt demand of the farmers for either protection or subsidies. Neither is the least remedy for our agrarian troubles.

The Only Way.

In season and out we have urged the desirability and importance of serious co-operation. It is on these lines that we still hope to see the conference achieve useful work.

The Game—as Usual!

When the Wheatley Housing Bill was passed, Sir William Joynson-Hicks described it as "a gigantic sham to defraud the people." Mr. Chamberlain is going to continue to work the scheme. We make no comment—but we can't help thinking a lot!

Factory Built Houses.

Evidence is piling up that houses constructed of material other than bricks are perfectly practicable, cheap, and rapid in construction. Such houses also tap quite new sources of labour. Mr. Chamberlain must push on with the job.

Going Up?

We should not be surprised if the New Year sees Mr. Asquith elevated to the Peerage. It would certainly solve the difficulty of finding him a safe seat!

Another "Possible."

Nor should we be exactly surprised to see Lord Derby join the Government ranks before long. There is a large body of Unionist support for such a move—and more unlikely things have happened.

New Admiralty Chief?

Some weeks ago we prophesied that Sir Robert Horne's exclusion from the Cabinet was only temporary. Before the New Year is many weeks old Sir Robert will be in harness again.

According to Plan.

The Chancellor has addressed a stern warning to the Whitehall spending departments on the pressing need for economy. So have previous Chancellors—and without the least effect. Circulars are no good without courage.

A Unique Chance.

Mr. Churchill is really faced by the alternatives of political glory or oblivion. It all depends whether he puts our finances in order or allows himself to be overborne by the permanent officials.

Logic and Arithmetic.

President Coolidge thinks that France should get easier terms to repay her American debt than Britain got. We agree. We also think that Britain should get no worse terms than France will get.

A Minority of One.

The Cabinet administered a well-deserved rebuff to Mr. Churchill when he demanded the rupture of all relations with Russia. European reconstruction is far too important to be wrecked by mere prejudice.

That's Done.

The signing of the Treaty of Commerce between Britain and Germany marks the definite end of the irrational war mentality. It is another milestone on the road to trade prosperity.

Too Much Secrecy.

India is bound to figure largely in the early debates of Parliament. No man has a harder task, or more need of a considered policy, than Lord Birkenhead. And we hope he will disclose the exact state of affairs.

The Knife Edge.

In the midst of the delicate Egyptian situation we commend to the Cabinet that old saying that "Any fool can make war." It is successful conciliation that marks the true statesman.

Not Another Mesopotamia.

We cannot afford permanently to hold Egypt down by force of arms. That is the point from which all our policy must start.

Apply the Brakes!

The railway crisis that still threatens the New Year is more than a little based on the old rivalry and jealousy between the N.U.R. and the Locomotive Engineers. It is up to the leaders to see that the country is not made the victim of this purely family affair.

Good Words.

Mr. Baldwin's statesmanlike pronouncements on education should cause those who are clamouring for the reduction of teachers' salaries to blush for shame. It remains for the Minister of Education to translate sentiments into Acts of Parliament.

Striking Evidence.

There can be no excuse for the new Parliament if it fails to reform the electoral law. There never was a better chance of sweeping away the anomaly that allows even this huge majority to be representative of a minority vote.

Free the Land!

It is a paradox that there are thousands of unemployed literally starving in the midst of plenty because our antiquated land system will not allow them to provide for themselves! It is a simple trust that even the politicians could see—if they would.

Isn't it Pathetic?

While at home the Labour Party is trying to expel the Communists from its ranks, the trade union delegates abroad are blessing Bolshevism and all its works. Mr. Purcell is doing his Party a grave disservice. He should come home.

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

It's so Simple.

There would soon be an end to the scandal of poisoned food if every product had to pass the test to which advertised articles in JOHN BULL are submitted. Why doesn't the Ministry of Health follow our lead?

Senseless Persecutions.

We take the opportunity of associating ourselves wholeheartedly with Dr. Hadyn Brown in his campaign against the autocratic tyranny of the General Medical Council. It is time this arrogant body was boldly challenged.

High-handed Officials.

Since when did Scotland Yard become the official censor for the Spanish Monarchy? The suppression of a book about King Alfonso by a famous Spanish novelist is a matter that the Home Office should be invited to explain.

Still an Unsolved Problem.

The story of the rescue of the entombed miners at the Killan pit reveals vividly the perilous nature of the work and the uncomplaining heroism of the men. Only those unacquainted with the miners daily task begrudge them a living wage and decent conditions.

Easy Come—Easier Go.

Many Eastern potentates draw immense and increasing revenues from their subjects which go into their private purse. They also pay us for protection, which now costs us much more than it did. Why are they not asked to increase their contributions?

Men They Ought To Be.

Since it has been decided that petrol pumps are not measures within the meaning of the Weights and Measures Act, all we can say is that the sooner they are made so the better.

Profit by Experience.

If the Wembley Authorities have any sense they will accept our advice, which they rejected last year, and fix the admission price at 1s. There is a lot of virtue in that nimble coin. It may make all the difference between success and failure.

Exit the Curb on the Bridal.

With the exception of a few sanctimonious humbugs, the recommendation to substitute the word "serve" for the word "obey" in the marriage service appears to have met with general acceptance. Now, perhaps, it will be possible for marriages to be made in heaven.

The Ticket of Leave.

Before the war season-ticket holders could suspend their tickets while away on holidays and not using them. When is this privilege to be restored? Has nobody told the railway directors that the war is over?

Idiots!

We can't get very excited over whether music-halls shall have bars or not, but the decision of the London County Council that seventeen shall be "dry" and the rest "wet" annoys us. We like grandmothers—but not when they attempt legislation.

The Way of the World.

Lord Ashfield's scheme to relieve our congested street traffic by constructing underground roadways for pedestrians will, paradoxically enough, probably remain for ever in the air.

The Golden Age.

If, as appears probable, legislation is to be introduced to make Old Age Pensions payable at sixty-five instead of at seventy, so much the better. It has always seemed the height of irony to pension a claimant when he is actuarily, if not actually, dead.

Dr. Mary Scharlieb.

Last week we published a portrait of Dr. Mary Scharlieb as an illustration to an article on the Hidden Plague. We desire it to be understood that this portrait was published, not at her request or suggestion, or in any way in consultation with her, but as a voluntary tribute on our part to her eminence in medical work.

Working for Love.

When will the Church realise that there is a real menace in many of its curates being so miserably paid that they cannot afford to wed, and in its women workers having to face existence on starvation wages. The slur on the reputation of a great Chuch must be removed.

Whilst of Unsound Mind?

Pillion-riding has claimed yet another victim this last week, and the Windsor coroner made the all-too-necessary remark that pillion-riding should be made a penal offence. We add "just like any other form of attempted suicide."

The Man who Hung On.

Dogged grit will take Constable Albert Grout high up the ladder of promotion, we hope. His is the courage that can't be shaken. He hung on to a runaway horse and cart and stopped the animal even though he was dragged through a shop window, saving Chelmsford shoppers from injury. What Rugby players call a good tackle.

Dog with a Bad Name.

Because of his past, Oliver Taylor was given three years' penal servitude in the North Riding, where he pleaded guilty to a trivial offence. Since then, however, the Appeal Court has reduced the term to twelve months' hard labour. Thus we progress from the old bad idea that past sins are ever to be millstones around the necks of the accused.

The Human Machine.

Fear

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

ROUGHLY speaking, it can be said that our mental life, and particularly our powers of creative thought, enable us to adapt our conduct to our environment. The man who uses his brain aright, and who has learned how to direct his thoughts, behaves intelligently when faced with difficult or unexpected situations, instead of blundering around in a blind endeavour to find a way out.

But thought, like every other function of the human machine, can at times lead us sadly astray unless we keep it under control.

Just as the blood can both keep us healthy, and at the same time serve us a medium for disease, so our thought can be both useful and a medium for serious blunders.

It all depends on the measure of control we achieve over its direction.

When thought turns in the direction of unreasoning fear it is performing a useless function. It becomes a serious hindrance to activity, a source of worry and anxiety, a steady drain on energy and initiative.

Fear, based on something that is, more often than not, entirely imaginary is a common enough experience. And the trouble is that what appears trivial to the outsider, seems very real indeed to the person concerned.

There is only one thing to be done if you are obsessed by a continual dread. Face it boldly, analyse it, lay bare its roots and discover if there is any real foundation for it.

Few fears can live beneath the searchlights of cold fact.

But you will have to be honest with yourself, own up to your own insincerities, and have the courage to laugh at yourself for your timidity.

Certainly the sure way to clothe the skeleton of fear with flesh is to be afraid of it!

Dear Milk.

The winter milk ramp is now well under way. It needs no Royal Commission to discover that on the sale of this vital commodity excessive profits are being made. If ever "control" could be justified it would be in the case of an article like milk, upon whose quantity and quality the health of the next generation depends.

Rails on Food.

Railway companies are among the food profiteers. Across the Channel the French pay 5s. 6d. for sending a ton of meat by passenger train one hundred miles at owner's risk. On our side of the Channel the cost is about £2—or more than seven times as much. The woman with the shopping bag pays the £2 plus the butchers' interest on the capital.

In the Mines.

Disaster has again been rife in the South Wales coal-field, a number of miners having lost their lives, while many others sustained serious injuries. It is a terrible price we pay for our coal. In 1923 no fewer than 1,297 mine workers were killed and 212,256 badly hurt. The conviction that many of these accidents could be avoided by stricter compulsion in the use of safety precautions accounts for much of the unrest among miners.

The New Lord Warden.

There is a good deal of criticism in Dover because the Town Council, acting on a hint from the Town Clerk, ordered the Press out of the Council Chamber when grave charges about a public contract came up for discussion. The Town Clerk is, no doubt, well intentioned, but we respectfully suggest to him, and to the Council he advises, which is, of course, responsible, that publicity is the best protection for the public.

Municipal Meanness.

While permanent employees of the Herne Bay Council are paid from 1s. to 1s. 2d. an hour, so-called temporary hands, many of whom have been employed for twelve months, are paid only 10½d. an hour. In bad weather their weekly wage has worked out at about 35s. Do the mandarins consider it possible for men to maintain themselves and their families in decency on such a miserable pittance?

Many Inventions—few Cures.

The "gold cure" treatment for tuberculosis is claimed to have been successful in some cases in Denmark. Meanwhile, Spahlinger goes on working—abroad. Every day in Britain scores are slain by tuberculosis who have never heard of a "cure." It is urgent that our own doctors either show that they are capable of producing new methods or of adopting those of foreign experts instead of working on the old treatments that don't cure.

The Price of Purity.

The lay magistrates of Hartlepool seem to set a small price on a child's innocence. When John W. Waterman, of 4, John Street South, was charged before them with indecently assaulting his ten-year-old niece, the Chairman, Mr. C. J. Smyth, announced that a majority of the Bench were satisfied that the offence had been committed, and then proceeded to fine the child-defiler forty shillings! This amazing incident adds point to the agitation which has been going on for some time for the appointment of a stipendiary for the twin towns.

No Injustice to Ireland.

It has come to our knowledge that an impression exists in certain parts of Ireland that our readers there are excluded from participating in our Free Insurance Gift Scheme. This is a misapprehension which we hasten to remove. Registered readers, whether in Northern Ireland or the Irish Free State, will receive all benefits provided by the Scheme, with the single exception of compensation for damage by riots or civil commotion. The coupons may be signed in full confidence that there is no other reservation whatever. Heaven forbid that JOHN BULL should be guilty of injustice to Ireland!

Black and White.

As the result of a row the police have raided the Black Man's Club, in Whitfield Street, Tottenham Court Road. They need not have waited for the fracas. Weeks ago we exposed this den where white women and black men consort.

Roses in the Desert.

There is nothing so uncommon as common-sense, and to find 247 pages of it at one venture is like finding roses in the desert. Dr. R. J. Campbell, whose articles have endeared him to the hearts of our readers, has just published "A Book of Homely Wisdom" (John Lane, 5s.), and as a Christmas book or a bedside friend, it will be invaluable. Thoughtful, helpful philosophies, each little article is a gem.

Death Ships.

The smuggling of dope into the country must be suppressed. Through Northern ports small boxes of pure cocaine are being very cunningly brought into the country and secretly sold. Profits are high, and some German sailors are ready to risk their freedom to gain them. And drug-fiends anxiously await the coming in of the ships to obtain supplies. A soul-destroying business the authorities must end.

A Plain Demand.

Once again we ask the Public Prosecutor what he proposes to do in regard to the people behind the collapse of the Commercial Permanent Money Society, Ltd., which has taken thousands of pounds from poor people and lost practically every penny. Faked balance-sheets appear to be a feature of this scandal, and if there is not a prosecution the duped investors may well regard the law as an ass.

Injustices of the Peace.

At the Surrey Assizes Mr. Justice Swift very rightly "ticked off" the magistrates who had kept in prison for five months a poor woman, technically guilty of bigamy, "whose sentence in ordinary circumstances would have been one day's imprisonment." It is high time that qualified stipendiary magistrates replaced the unqualified stupidity magistrates.

Preserve Us from Preservatives!

In a pound of sausages purchased from William Mears Cole, a Southsea butcher, who was fined £3 3s. for the offence, no fewer than 56 grains of boric acid were found. The public analyst stated that in only one other case had he ever found a higher percentage. It appears that proceedings are taken only where the percentage exceeds 25 grains. The sooner the use of boric acid as a food preservative is entirely forbidden the better. At present it is used to such an extent that everybody's food is practically everybody's poison.

The Fruit Fakers.

Some idea of the methods employed in preparing dried fruit for sale may be gleaned from the following advertisement which recently appeared in a trade paper: "Prunes, plums, figs, apricots, etc., recured, and all forms of blemish removed. Fruits renovated by us are just like fresh arrival goods. We are the men with the Californian experience. Works address: Hughes and Hopley, 4, Wynne Street, Edgehill, Liverpool." We wonder how much fruit faked in this fashion is sold in the shops as "fresh arrival goods."

A Dangerous Derelict.

Shareholders in Sainte Cecile Plage, Ltd., a company registered in Guernsey with an office at 5, Court Row, St. Peter Port, are being invited to purchase preference shares at 10s. each with a bonus of one ordinary share for every preference share. The concern has been more or less derelict ever since it was launched in 1916, and is now in such a condition that to subscribe further capital would be simply throwing good money after bad. So long as these appeals for more financial support continue, the company will be a danger to ignorant speculators, and it would be better to sink it than to let it swim.

Problems of Life.

An Ancient Riddle

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

IS the world growing better or worse?

Before the war most people in this country would have said that it must be growing better because progress was the rule in human affairs—at any rate in our affairs.

By progress we meant gradual improvement in manners and morals as well as increase of knowledge, wealth and comfort.

The ordinary person probably thought of evolution and progress as implying each other; that just as evolution governs the natural world so does progress characterise the world of ideas and conduct.

But Professor Gilbert Murray, one of the most distinguished of living teachers, thus writes about it:

"The history of the world consists mostly in the memory of those ages, quite few in number, in which some part of the world has risen above itself and burst into flower or fruit. We ourselves happen to live in the midst or possibly in the close of one such period. More change has probably taken place in daily life, in ideas, and in the general aspect of the earth during the last century than during any other four centuries since the Christian era; and this fact has tended to make us look on rapid progress as a normal condition of the human race, which it never has been."

We have had to learn the painful lesson in recent years that material progress does not necessarily mean moral progress, and that gain in one direction may consist with loss in another.

On the other hand, do not let us make the mistake of imagining that things can go permanently wrong with the world. History should teach us better.

Nearly seventeen centuries ago a great man, Cyprian, wrote as follows:

"The world has grown old, and does not remain in its former vigour. It bears witness to its own decline. The rainfall and the sun's warmth are both diminishing; the metals are nearly exhausted; the husbandman is failing in the fields, the sailor on the seas, the soldier in camp, honesty in the market, justice in the courts, concord in friendships, skill in the arts, discipline in morals."

Little did this writer foresee the triumphs of ages to come, and we may be sure that our present-day pessimists are no wiser.

Let us lift up our hearts, believe greatly, and act bravely, and the star of our national fortunes will rise in splendour yet again.

Gush for Greenhorns.

"We are anxious to help you to consistently make money," declare Ernest Green and Co., of Valencia House, Church Lane, Hull, in circulars urging people to send them money to purchase options on American shares concerning which they say they receive exclusive information from their New York agents. Only greenhorns would imagine for a moment that anyone having certain foreknowledge that shares would advance in price within a fortnight would broadcast the information for everyone's benefit.

Where is He?

At the commencement of the football season agents for coupon betting were appointed by C. G. Sackville, of 26, Charing Cross Road, W.C., who particularly impressed on them the following: "You are dealing with a man who has been established many years. I carry on throughout the whole of the season, and you will not annoy your clints by my closing down before the end." A few weeks ago, however, letters addressed to him were returned marked "Gone away," and some of our readers would like to know where, for he assured them that he always maintained a large capital at his bankers.

The Wiles of Webb.

A new reader who unfortunately missed our warnings against Webb, the moneylending furniture dealer of High Road, Tottenham, N., recently had an experience which shows that that unscrupulous fee-snatcher has not reformed his methods. He asked for a loan of £50 and paid 10s. for enquiries. He was visited by a representative, and later received a letter stating that "as far as enquiries have been made they have proved to be quite satisfactory," but asking for a further fee "to complete enquiries." The only outcome was an offer of a loan if the applicant could "find a suitable guarantee." It is difficult to find words adequate to condemn such business.

"JOHN BULL" PAYS

114 More Insurance Benefits

TOTAL NOW 14,101

Lendal's Lure.

We understand that the police are now taking statements from people who have complaints about the firm of Lendal, Ltd., 94, Queen's Road, Bayswater, whose methods were the subject of a drastic criticism in our last issue. Further developments are awaited with interest. Mr. H. G. Lewin, who was the most active director of this concern, is still not to be found at its office.

Careless with the Noughts.

Some of these moneylenders are almost as careless with their noughts as the now famous Mr. "A." Allan Foster and Co., Ltd., of 6-7-8, Old Bond Street, W., declare in their latest circular that they will advance from £50 to £250,000 without security! In these days when it is difficult to persuade "Uncle" to lend him a few shillings, it is nice to know where one can get a quarter of a million sterling without having to deposit even an old top hat.

Playing Safe.

One of the woes of Wilfred Brook, of Ridgeway House, Nether-Heage, Derbyshire, is that he has been too successful with his football coupon system. He declares that last season he made £665 clear profit on a bank of £20 with the unfortunate result that the bookmakers now refuse to accept his wagers. The poor fellow asks pathetically, "Are you willing to help me in the game of 'Skin-the-bookie'? If so, send a 10s. Treasury note, a stamped addressed envelope, and a current week's coupon." He is evidently determined that whoever is skinned it won't be Wilfred.

Fraudulent Furniture Dealer.

We have received further complaints against W. R. Hewstone, the "cabinet manufacturer and upholsterer," of 95, Great Eastern Street, E.C., whose methods we recently exposed, and as it is perfectly obvious that he persisted in taking payment for furniture for immediate delivery when he was either unable or unwilling to execute orders already in hand, we suggest that if his dupes laid information before the police at Old Street it should be possible for him to be brought into court on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences.

A HERO LEFT TO DIE

DOCTOR'S APPEAL IN PENSIONS SCANDAL

The debt the country forgets

THE test of a nation, as of an individual, is that it should play the game. Is the official element in this country, charged with this duty by the nation, playing the game with respect to the broken soldiers of the great war?

At the present moment an ex-soldier of the King, Lieutenant G. A. Elliott, of 51, Framley Road, Camberley, is lying critically ill. He is without resources, an ex-soldier stranded in the land he fought for, and deserted by those who should come to his aid.

Elliott was in Egypt when the war broke out. He joined up in the Egyptian Labour Corps in order that he might do his bit. At that time he was a strong and vigorous young fellow. If he had not been his services would not have been accepted.

He was sent to Palestine and put in charge of a black squad engaged on the task of laying pipe-lines through the desert.

It was a remote and unhealthy station. He was the only white man there. He had to live in a tent that was full of holes, and exist as best he could until relief came. He became ill and developed a racking, rasping cough.

For months he asked that a better tent be sent to him. He could not get it. He stuck to his post and carried on.

On one occasion he got a respite of two months when he was in hospital. He had been blown up when a train carrying air bombs exploded and caught on fire. He was picked up unconscious and lay for weeks in a critical condition.

He returned to duty, was struck down by sunstroke, and again spent a long period in hospital. All the time the cough grew worse.

The doctors cheered him up and told him that when he recovered from shell-shock and sunstroke he would soon get all right. He did not know, and hoped for the best.

In 1919 he was demobilised and apparently recovered from both shell-shock and sunstroke. He thought that if he got back to his old work the terrible cough would disappear.

It did not. Elliott struggled on for a time but the cough beat him. He had to return to England.

When he got here he went to Dr. G. Wilson of Eastbourne, who told him that he was suffering from tuberculosis, that this dread disease had got a serious hold upon him, and that in all probability it originated during his time of hardship and exposure in the desert.

He asked for a Medical Board. He was given one at Southampton.

Dr. H. Wansey Bayly M.C.

He complains that this Board did not consider the question of his lungs, but only the condition of his nervous system, to which alone reference was made in his papers recording his disabilities from sunstroke and shell-shock.

That is to say that because there was no record of tuberculosis in his papers it presumably did not exist; or, if it did exist, it was only in his lungs, not his papers. Their business was with his papers rather than his lungs, and they could not recommend him a pension.

He found that having tuberculosis in his lungs, instead of merely in his papers, prevented him from working and exposed him, unless he could get help, to a losing battle with death and officialdom.

He applied for an appeal against the decision of this Board, but without success. He went home to his father, an old gentleman of over seventy who had retired on the small income he derived from a life's savings.

The aged father welcomed home his war-broken son. He could not afford to support him in comfort, much less to send him to the high altitudes of Switzerland, where he might have a chance to recover.

So the poor old man went out to work again, and took a job as a clerk where he earns a little pittance that he devotes to helping his son.

Fortunately the stricken soldier found a friend in Dr. H. Wansey Bayly, M.C., associated with two ex-service organisations, who took up the cudgels on his behalf. The result is that at long last an appeal has been granted.

But it has not been given. It was granted last June. In the intervening five months the broken man, steadily growing worse, has been kept by his aged father while the Ministry of Pensions leisurely sharpens its pencil and prepares its writing-pads.

The man may die in the interval. And now the excuse is that papers have been sent for to Egypt,

This is not an isolated case, and probably there are hundreds of ex-service men deserving pensions who are not in touch with an influential person to press their claim.

A country that was grateful to those who saved it in time of trouble should see that every ex-service man is able to obtain justice.

Magic Carpets Gone West

The story of the Leech on the floor cloth

A LARGE number of bargain-seekers have been attracted by the glowing advertisements of Carpetoleum. Ltd., of 132, Newington Causeway, London, S.E., which offered a special line of "carpetoleum" oilcloth at alluring prices. Everything pointed to a splendid bargain, and the Post Office did a roaring trade in delivering orders to Carpetoleum, Ltd.

There was, however, a fly in the ointment—bargain-hunters had to send cash with order. They did not know the fly was there until they had parted with their money. Many began to wonder where the bargain was when they could not even get their money back from Carpetoleum, Ltd.

Other bargain-hunters had a similarly trying experience with a firm called the Floor-noleum Company, which operated from 132D, Brixton Hill, S.E. This concern advertised in the same way as Carpetoleum, Ltd., and as far back as last May people who had sent money to Brixton for floor-noleum were writing for the goods or the return of their cash.

In many cases they got neither. But some impatient floor-noleum clients received a letter from Carpetoleum, Ltd., stating that the latter firm had taken over the business of the Floor-noleum Company, and would look into the complaints.

Now it happens that a man named J. C. Leech was running the Floor-noleum concern with its list of clamouring clients. It also happens that the same enterprising gentleman is a director of Carpetoleum, Ltd., which was registered last June—some time after he was in difficulties at Brixton Hill.

Interesting, isn't it? More interesting, too, because there are now scores of people who have had no better luck with the new-oleum concern than others experienced with the old-noleum firm at Brixton. As we have already said, the Post Office did a roaring trade in delivering letters to Carpetoleum, Ltd., from people who wanted the bargains advertised at alluring prices. The Post Office is doing a roaring trade still—this time returning letters, marked "Gone away," which duped clients have written to Newington Causeway!

The local police have received many complaints and inform us that Mr. Leech and his affairs are now in the hands of the Bankruptcy Department. That is evidently the end of the story of Floor-noleum and Carpetoleum, and, as far as we can see, the end of the money sent to these Leech firms by bargain-seekers.

We warned our readers long ago against both these firms. We once again impress upon the public that it is always bad business to pay for goods in advance without adequate guarantees.

Landladies in the Lurch

Mr. Bogus on Tour

JOHN BULL has waged a long war against bogus theatrical managers who live easily on the sufferings of their dupes, and who often leave lady members of their companies stranded in precarious circumstances, without money or food, in the provinces.

We are glad to see that at last a notorious theatrical swindler, William Jackson, has been brought to book. He was sentenced last week at Nottingham to twelve months' imprisonment on several charges of fraud.

Like most bogus theatrical managers he used several aliases, amongst which the most frequent was Cecil Baines. One of his favourite tricks was to strand companies, after he had made all he wanted out of them, and leave landladies with heavy bills unpaid.

It is a very despicable thing to victimise poor women who are compelled to eke out a precarious existence by letting rooms and supplying theatrical artistes with food, and we are sorry to say that the habit is nowadays growing a common one. The artistes, to whom the landladies look for their money, are of course not directly to blame since, in most cases, they are themselves the victims of Mr. Bogus on Tour.

Artistes—in Deception.

The authorities at Scotland Yard have been receiving complaints about rogues in the theatrical profession and have recently issued a warning respecting a person who appears to be both audacious and active. He uses many names—a different one for every coup he brings off—and is assisted by two women, one of whom is supposed to be his wife.

His methods are simplicity itself. With his two confederates—the trio describe themselves as theatrical artistes—he takes apartments in an assumed name, usually two bedrooms and a sitting-room. He does a good deal of theatrical correspondence from each house he honours with his presence and, after a few days, disappears without paying the bill and, incidentally, carries away the property of fellow lodgers and the landlady.

Rolls-Royce and Roguery.

He drives his two women associates about in a nice motor-car, which gives them an air of position and affluence, and uses the car also to take away the swag. Several landladies have been relieved of all their jewellery by him and the women, and there are several warrants out for his arrest.

Many landladies are complaining about a gentleman on tour named Cecil Gray. He is not to be classified in the same category as the other people mentioned here, but certainly does not pay his landladies when the money is due. Theatrical associations have a good deal of information against him in this respect.

Gilt Gauze and Guilt

The open door we closed.

OUR observations on a certain institution called "The Ever Open Doors of Industry for Providing Direct Employment for Discharged Convicts and Prisoners," have had swift results.

Two days after we had given a few details of the career of Charles J. Newland, the secretary, who has been in turn bogus matrimonial agent, bogus missioner, bogus house agent and bogus husband, the Ever Open Doors were closed, and the philanthropic Newland had departed.

All that remained of the E.O.D. I.P.D.E.D.C.P., at the headquarters in York Road, London, S.E., was a gauze window-screen on which the full title of the institution had been inscribed in gilt letters.

The indignant landlord had removed it, and was, in fact, preparing to wipe out the gilt when our representative called on him.

A well-known clergyman in Kennington, whose name had appeared on the circulars sent out for the inevitable subscriptions, denied all knowledge of the affair.

He had never heard of either Newland or the Ever Open Doors until his attention was drawn to the list of "patrons."

Where the Idea came from.

It is obvious where Newland received the inspiration for his somewhat novel type of "charity." Not many weeks before launching his appeal, he was himself in need of a little direct employment. He had just completed a sentence of three years, passed on him at the Old Bailey in June, 1922, for obtaining various sums of money by fraud.

What more fitting employment could he find than secretary of the Ever Open Doors?

Our exposure of the Wealthy Bride and other swindles perpetrated by the same old Newland aroused considerable interest in Willesden where, after conducting a house agency at High Street and attending church regularly, he was charged at the police court with obtaining various sums of money by fraud.

Duped Ex-soldiers.

One of the public-spirited schemes which he set on foot in the district was the opening of a new market ground on a vacant space now occupied by an oil-pumping station. Numerous small traders, many of them ex-Service men, booked stalls on the new ground, paying deposits against the time it would be filled in and levelled.

But Newland's new land came to nothing.

He himself was found by the police at Richmond where, under an assumed name, he had returned to his old profession of "matrimonial agent," with a little beauty specialism by way of tone.

HUGE BOGUS BANKRUPTCIES

ALIEN ROGUES WHO ROB AND RUIN

Amazing Admissions in Government Record.

THE first question that Sir Philip Lloyd-Greame, the new President of the Board of Trade, must tackle seriously is the necessity for laws to be made to cope with the hundreds of rascals who every year deprive the public of millions of pounds in bankruptcy proceedings.

Something like £30,000,000 has been lost in a few years in the textile trade alone in this way, and the responsible rascals who shield themselves behind the present wretchedly inadequate laws have, of course, not been jailed.

The situation is growing steadily worse. In 1915, before the war had seriously upset trading conditions, the liabilities of debtors under the Bankruptcy Act was under £4,000,000. In the year 1922 it was over £16,000,000! The same thing applies to deeds of arrangement. In 1915 the liabilities of debtors in this way came to just over £2,000,000. In 1923 they were over £8,000,000!

In other words the trading community of this country lost £24,000,000, less £4,000,000 of estimated assets of the debtors, which in actual practice worked out at less than £1,000,000. Thus the losses to the trading community of Britain in one year were easily over £20,000,000.

A great many of these bankrupts are foreigners trading in this country. We have from time to time exposed some very bad cases and called for certain remedies.

The cases we now quote will surprise our readers.

A Roumanian came to this country with a capital of less than £400. He began to make up fur garments at his house in the East End. He went bankrupt last year, with liabilities of over £40,000—*and no assets at all!*

He said that he kept books of account, but lost them by taking them home by tramcar. He and his wife continued trading as a small company after the receiving order had been made, and the members of the family drew between them over £20 a week in salaries! This is not a tragic calamity for the foreigner who came to the East End of London with a few pounds in his pocket, but it is a nasty jog for the £40,000 British creditors.

Sir Archibald Bodkin, Public Prosecutor.

A Polish Jew came to this country and was last year doing a big business in soft goods in London, buying hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of articles. He is supposed to have given credit for over £30,000 to a limited company with a nominal capital of only £1,000—which was formed by one of his wife's relatives who subsequently absconded. The book in which the record of these transactions was kept has "unaccountably disappeared."

A man born at Budapest came to this country and, during the war, was engaged as a dealer in precious stones. Last year he was sent to jail for obtaining pearls by a trick. His liabilities are stated to be over £300,000 and his assets will probably realise £50. The balance is the loss to be borne by the British traders who were duped.

In another case the unsecured liabilities of a Greek were over £19,000, and the assets estimated at under £30. We could give scores of other cases where the wily foreigner has done down the British people amongst whom he has come to live.

In record after record at the Board of Trade it is found that the bankrupt did not keep proper books, and continued to trade after he was insolvent; and could not account satisfactorily for the loss of his assets; or had indulged in rash and hazardous speculations and unjustifiable extravagance in living.

But, despite this grave and shocking scandal, only a small proportion of these bankrupts are prosecuted. Why? It is the pretence of the bankrupts that they have lost money in large sums by "bad debts." If these bad debts are bogus obviously the bankrupt has had an opportunity of selling goods obtained on credit, putting the money into his pocket, and saying that he lost it all because he made bad debts.

If these bad debts were thoroughly investigated by the police it would be found, as we have found in specially investigating certain cases, that most of these bad debts *are* bogus and that they are put in by friends of the bankrupt for the sole purpose of helping the debtor to mislead his duped creditors.

The trading community of this country cannot afford to lose £20,000,000 a year through the trickery of alien rascals; and we say plainly that the Public Prosecutor ought to spend some of the money allocated to him out of public funds to expose this wholesale robbery and put those who resort to it into jail.

A Week-end Husband

Marriage becomes easy when money is to be gained

THERE is at present in this country a deceptive and dangerous scoundrel who for ten years or more has set at defiance the laws of civilised communities and laughed to scorn the efforts of the authorities to cut short his amazing career of crime.

He specialises in bigamy and robbery, and his daring exploits are recorded in the police dossiers of Scotland Yard, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Madrid and New York. There are warrants out for his arrest in almost every country represented in the international police system which was established some time ago, yet such is his cunning that he has hitherto contrived to elude capture, though some of the most accomplished sleuths of both hemispheres have been close on his trail.

This master of matrimonial duplicity and amazing roguery is a Czecho-Slovakian whose real name is Richard Engel. For the purpose of his infamous system of preying upon society he masquerades under other names, such as Richards and Gordon, and he has more than once impudently posed as James King and claimed relationship with Mr. Mackenzie King, the Premier of Canada.

His methods are daring and simple. Taking advantage of a somewhat distinguished appearance, polished manners, fluency in most European languages and a personality capable of considerable powers of fascination, he ingratiates himself with women of wealth and independence staying in high-class hotels, marries them and deserts them as soon as he has obtained possession of as much of their money and jewellery as possible.

In this manner, about a year ago he persuaded Mrs. Alyce Sheddon, a rich American widow, who was staying at the Savoy Hotel, to go through a form of marriage with him at the Henrietta Street Register Office. He promptly relieved her of thousands of pounds worth of jewellery and securities and disappeared from the hotel. Within a few days he had "married" another wealthy woman named King, and cleared out of the country taking with him nearly £6,000 of her cash and valuables.

He appears then to have made his way in the first place to Brussels, and the police of Berlin and Vienna have since been seeking him in connection with a series of frauds he committed of a particularly abhorrent type.

Recently he carried out a characteristic exploit in Paris, where he victimised an Englishwoman well known in society. He fled from France to avoid arrest, and has once more arrived in England.

It is difficult to understand the failure of the police to intercept this shameless scoundrel.

Black Boys in Blue

What do sailors think?

BRITISH seamen are rightly indignant over the way in which undesirable negroes and Chinamen are allowed to work on British ships.

For many months the black peril in this country has grown steadily, and many coloured "seamen" only use the Merchant Service for the one purpose of getting to England.

The East End of London is overrun by undesirable coloured pests, who do not work but spend the time lounging about idly living for the most part on the immoral earnings of white women and from the illicit traffic in dope.

Protests are being made by the white seamen in that locality.

Go through Pennyfields and Limehouse Causeway in the early hours, and you will see white women creeping out of the Chinese dens of vice and shame. In the daytime you will find Chinamen lounging about doing no work, well-dressed, looking prosperous and affluent. How is it done? For the most part by cunning intrigue and immorality.

There were a quarrel and fight the other evening in Limehouse between a British seaman and a coloured man—complete with cigar, gold rings, tight-fitting suit and gold-knobbed stick—who was making evil overtures to two respectable young girls whom he had accosted. The British sailor, being a white man, struck the black pest in the face for his insolence. The nigger sneaked away.

British seamen will not stand for this state of affairs indefinitely. They are themselves resolved to find a way out if the Government much longer disregards their appeal for freedom and fairplay.

Santa's Brother

Looking for dupes.

CHRISTMAS is essentially a children's festival, and there are few people so mean that they will not listen sympathetically to appeals on behalf of poor kiddies and open their purses to support any genuine scheme for bringing joy and happiness into the lives of little slum dwellers at this season.

Knowing this, George H. Breton, the self-styled "Founder and Director" of the "Poor Children's Society," with headquarters at Shaftesbury Hall, Trinity Street, Borough, S.E., who has lived for forty years by exploiting slum children for his own advantage, is redoubling his efforts to obtain subscriptions from the public in all parts of the country.

At ordinary times the behaviour of this impostor is shameful enough. To play with the sufferings of poor children and commercialise the Christmas spirit in order to swell his own banking account is the conduct of a contemptible cad. He is now appealing specially to officers of the Royal Navy.

FUNNY FINANCE

THE MAN WHO BROKE ALL THE BANKS

His Amazing New Insurance Company

THERE is no limit, apparently, to the faith of some people, but we should think that limit simply does not exist in the case of those who are fools enough to believe what they are told about that marvellous money-making project called Duncan's System.

This system, we may say at once, has nothing to do with Admiral Duncan who won the great naval battle, or with the Duncan who Macbeth slew, or even with the celebrated Duncan Grey whose wooing is one of the great features of Scottish song and story.

But the Duncan who invented this money-making system seems to be a not less remarkable man. We are told by people who want to sell his system to the public that Duncan was the greatest and most successful and intrepid speculator of the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Frightened the Stockbrokers.

It seems that when he walked on to the Stock Exchange the other stockbrokers held their breath. We are told that he bought and sold shares on his marvellous system and made money so fast that we really cannot understand how he found time to count his gains.

In any case, the man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo never achieved such a dazzling triumph as Duncan, because, we are told, the leaders of the Stock Exchange came together, held an historic meeting, and arranged with the victorious Duncan not to use his deadly system against them any more.

The sad thing about this historic meeting is that we cannot find any stockbrokers who have ever heard of it, and it is, of course, a thing of which every important stockbroker should have known. We therefore do not believe a word of it.

But that is not the point. The system has now been dug up again and advertised extensively by a firm in Devonshire Square, E.C., which invites you to send it multiples of £25, out of which you are going to make money on this marvellous system which made the late departed Duncan as rich as an Eastern potentate.

Strange, very Strange.

Now the strange thing is this. Although you are invited to fill your pockets with this apparently infallible system, you are also told that an arrangement has been concluded with the West Riding and Counties Insurance Company to ensure investors against the loss of capital under the Duncan system for three years.

Why it should be necessary to guarantee against loss an investor who is promised a gold-plated certainty we do not know. It seems like painting the lily, which Shakespeare said was wasteful and ridiculous.

But no one will complain of being guaranteed against loss. Still, before you part with your money, you are entitled to ask what is this insurance company that is going to guarantee the safety of the invested money.

We can explain it. This company, now of 34, Ludgate Hill, E.C., has an authorised capital of £2,000 of which, at the last return, under £1,200 had been called up. It also had unpaid debts amounting to over £2,000, and the accountant observed in his report that the company had not any assets except the value of its charter.

Is there any prudent business man who will accept this as an adequate guarantee for any considerable sum of money?

We do not think so. But if the company has got more capital since, and has cleared away all its liabilities, then a statement to that effect showing its present financial resources and stength should certainly be submitted to investors before they are asked to part with their money.

We understand that quite recently an active spirit interesting himself in this company is a gentleman named T. H. Williams, of the same address.

We find that this gentleman's record is not calculated to inspire confidence in him in a financial scheme that is not very full and explicitly explained.

His Ugly Past.

Williams was associated with a concern called Commercial Developments, in which he tried to get capital for a bookmaking business called Dick Depledge, Ltd., of 5A, Old Burlington Street. He ought to have been able to get all the capital he wanted out of the Duncan System. Perhaps he did not know about it then. In any case Dick Depledge, Ltd., has gone phut, and its affairs are now in the hands of the Official Receiver.

Commercial Developments do not seem to have developed much. Williams had an even more unfortunate experience last year with a scheme he was associated with for making money for investors through Chinese loans, what the stockbrokers used to call the "Chu Chin Chow" market.

The losses to the investors were thousands of pounds, and the sequel was that Williams, who was stated to have been bankrupt on three occasions, went to jail for twelve months for conspiracy to defraud.

In the circumstances we advise investors to let Duncan's gold-plated system alone, even though they are told that their capital is secured by the insurance company which has the advantage of Mr. Williams' ripe and exhaustive commercial experience.

The Sneeze & the Sentence

Making a boy a criminal.

BOYS will be boys, the proverb says, and another piece of inherited wisdom informs us that it is difficult to put old heads on young shoulders.

If there is any portion of the community which ought to ponder these theories, it is certainly the magisterial bench.

Have they been considered with judicial detachment and earnestness by Mr. St. John Williams, the stipendiary magistrate of Cardiff?

Recently he had before him a sixteen-year-old lad named John Appleyard, of 8, Somerset Street, Saltmead, Cardiff, who is the son of a widowed mother. He is also inclined to be troublesome.

Young Appleyard found a coat, and, believing that findings are keepings, he took it home. He discovered his mistake when a court bound him over.

After that he went to work, and his employers speak very highly of him. But boys will be boys. A lad who had found a packet of snuff gave it to young Appleyard, who threw it in the face of another boy, as he said, "to make him sneeze." A foolish thing, of course, but certainly not the action of a hardened criminal.

The victim was in pain for two or three days, and for a time could scarcely see. Appleyard may not know that.

He is now in jail—Mr. Stipendiary St. John Williams having inflicted upon him the astonishing sentence of two months' hard labour!

Two months for a boyish prank for which the perpetrator should have been caned! What is the good of the First Offenders Act?

We call upon the new Home Secretary to save this lad. He knows how wrong it is to break the heart of a boy by punishing him as though he were a depraved scoundrel.

Fools and Fivers

Fantastic housing scheme.

"FOR £5 only; don't miss this chance. A vacant house."

People who answered this advertisement in a London paper received an extraordinary communication from H. Sparrow, of 18, Parkfield Street, N., who describes himself as a builder.

Briefly put, his proposal is that everyone in search of a house should send him £5 to enable him to purchase property. One of the subscribers, to be selected by some method not yet decided, is to be given a house free, and the rest are promised their money back with 7½ per cent. interest at the end of seven months.

Only fools would part with fivers in order to participate in such a fantastic scheme without knowing a good deal more of Mr. Sparrow and his financial status than is disclosed in his badly typed circulars.

FIVE GRIM SHADOWS

DISCUSSING the fears that haunt the workers of this country, "Dr. Mac." goes thoroughly into the questions of Insurance and Old Age Pensions, and warns us of an insecure future.

by the Right Hon. T. J. MACNAMARA.

FIVE grim shadows still haunt the footsteps of every workman, though modern legislation has robbed most of them of a good deal of their terrors. They are:—fear of the day of sickness, of the day of accident, of the day of unemployment due to bad trade, of the day when death may leave his wife and little ones unprovided for, and of the day of enfeebled and impoverished old age.

These ever-present anxieties leave their mark upon efficiency. Worry is the very worst companion for the day's work. And as regards output, you may preach four-square economics till the cows come home, but how can you expect a man enthusiastically to speed up if there is nothing before him but the queue outside the Labour Exchange when the job is finished!

There was a time when nobody, save a few benevolently disposed people, bothered a great deal about what happened to the workman overtaken by bad luck or advancing years, or what happened to his widow and orphans when he was dead. The public conscience was satisfied to know that there was the Poor House and the Relieving Officer.

"The Good Old Days"

This is a fact that should not be forgotten when people denounce the refusal to work overtime, that particular wickedness known as "Ca' Canny," and so on. Some of those perfervid advocates who are constantly endeavouring to rush the workers off after the will-o'-the-wisp of political Socialism take particular care that their minds shall dwell on things as they *were* rather than as they *are*. And it is just that easy-going conscience of the "good old days" which is responsible for many of our difficulties of to-day.

However, during the last twenty-five or thirty years the problem of protection for the workman has very properly come to fill a much more important place in the field of public responsibility.

Students of social problems are satisfied that the time has come to increase the security provided for the worker, and wondering whether consolidation is not possible. The outcome, so far, is seen in the references to the matter in the party manifestoes at the recent General Election.

Mr. Baldwin Takes Steps.

As these are familiar to everybody, there is no need to recapitulate all their points here, but the undertakings given by the Premier on behalf of his Party assume an immediate and practical interest for everybody.

He explained that soon after the resignation of the late (Conservative) Government, in the early part of this year, he appointed a Committee to investigate a comprehensive scheme of insurance to cover both old-age and widows' pensions.

"The Committee have come to the conclusion that, whilst conserving the present rights of old-age pensioners, those rights should be supplemented by a contributory scheme which would enable the contributor to receive his old-age pension at an earlier age, and of a substantially larger amount. In the same system, provision should be made for the widow with dependent children to receive her pension as a right, for which payment had been made, instead of a dole or a charity."

This question, therefore, should become the subject of early discussion in the new Parliament—though, of course, progress depends on the state of the Exchequer.

Old Age Pensions.

And the first step to take to this end is to remove the Limit of Means disqualification altogether from the Old Age Pension. Under the existing law a person who has no income of any sort is eligible for the full Old Age Pension of 10s. a week at seventy years of age. But if he or she has a small income the Old Age Pension is either withdrawn altogether or reduced in amount according to the amount of the private income. To say the least of it, the plan is certainly not calculated to encourage the habit of thrift amongst the people.

Mr. Snowden, having four millions at his disposal, raised the Limit of Means disqualification so far as unearned income is concerned. His amendment was necessarily inadequate because of the small sum available; but it was also in my judgment rather clumsy. The proper thing to do is to abolish the Means Disqualification altogether.

The Rt. Hon. T. J. Macnamara, former Minister of Labour.

Old Age Pensions at present cost about thirty millions in a complete year. (I am giving full value to the amendment of 1924.) Made payable to everybody irrespective of private income, it is estimated they would cost at the present amount and age about forty-one millions a year.

When that is done there remains the necessity for an increase in the amount of the pension. Such increase should be based upon the three-fold contribution by the State, the employer, and the ultimate recipient.

It would be of great advantage if a step forward could be made to, say, 15s. a week (Mr. Baldwin spoke of a "substantially larger amount" than the present 10s.) with no Limit of Means Disqualification.

It is not for me to indicate what that would cost; but remember, three shoulders would bear the burden: the State the Employers, and the ultimate recipient. And here, as elsewhere, in this scheme of extension of benefit, my view is that, roughly, the burden of cost should rest equally upon these three shoulders.

Life on 10/- a week!

Further, it would be of very great advantage if, whilst the right to 10s. at seventy years of age remains, enjoyment of that or a larger amount at sixty-five could be made possible by the contributory plan. Again, I am not in a position to give an estimate of cost; but again, it would be met by the three-fold contributory plan.

At the best the pension payable to our aged people is a trifling sum when looked at from the point of view of the recipient. It only serves to take the edge off the privation that they have to endure and which puts the frost of winter into the eventide of their lives. When the Old Age Pension scheme has been improved along these lines, a start should be made, so soon as the state of the Exchequer permits, with Pensions for Widows. Here, as to age of eligibility, amount of pension, and so on, we must await such decisions as may be arrived at upon the report of the Committee which Mr. Baldwin tells us has been at work since the early part of 1924.

Widows' Pensions

Last February, Mr. Dukes, M.P., moved a resolution in favour of Mothers' Pensions, and referred to the two particular sections represented by widows with dependent children and mothers whose breadwinner has become incapacitated. Putting these widows and their dependents upon the same scale of allowances as the widows and dependents of men who fell in the war or died as the result of injuries received, as nearly as it is possible to estimate it, the obligation, according to Mr. Dukes, would amount to £20,000,000 a year.

Further, the Labour Party was also well on the way with the preparation of a Widows' Pensions Bill to have been laid before Parliament this Session. The new Government, therefore, will have the advantage of being able to have a look at these draft proposals so far as they have gone. (In all these matters the policy of the Labour Party is based on strong preference for non-contributory schemes.)

I lay great stress upon the desirability of improving Old Age Pensions and reducing the age as soon as the condition of the national Exchequer permits, because of the effect such advance would have upon the problem of Employment. At the present time there are roughly as many people at work over sixty-five years of age as there are out of work under thirty years of age. This matter of Old Age Pensions also presents an opportunity for some very sound statesmanship.

Shadows Behind—or Before

The old cannot lay down the harness of toil; the young walk the streets in the vain search for work. If we could help those over sixty-five years of age into decent retirement we should be conferring an unspeakable boon upon those under thirty years of age, who are becoming rapidly demoralised because of their inability to secure regular occupation.

There is not one of us who does not gravely deplore the unhappy plight of the man willing to work but unable to find a job. But how many of us give a thought to the problem of the full toll this country will be paying twenty years from now because of the failure of thousands of young fellows to get a regular job?

In all the proposals for improving and extending schemes of State Insurance I would only ask that every endeavour should be made to reduce and simplify the clerical work cast upon firms employing insured persons. And, further, every endeavour should be made to reduce and simplify the insurance books and cards which the insured person himself has to carry about.

The Sentence of the Court

JAIL FIRST; TRIAL AFTER

The Ass with a Cloven Hoof

by HARRISON OWEN

TO a charge of working a lame ass in circumstances involving cruelty, Viscount Cave, the Lord Chancellor, pleaded "Not guilty."

"I regret to state," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "that the long-eared animal referred to in the charge is the Law, for the condition of which the accused is officially, although not personally, responsible. When we find a well-fed, expensively trained, 22-carrot ass moving with the velocity of a superannuated snail, lameness seems the most charitable explanation, and while I cannot prove that working it in this condition involves cruelty to the animal itself, I can show that it results in grave cruelty to others.

"We know that justice delayed often means justice denied, and the latest instance of this is the case of Veronica Simpson, who was accused at the Surrey Assizes of bigamy. Although the mitigating circumstances were such that Mr. Justice Swift said that a day's imprisonment was the most he would have felt called upon to inflict, the unfortunate woman had already received a sentence 120 times more severe. Instead of being sent to jail for one day after having been found technically guilty, she was kept in prison for four months before being tried!

"'IMPROPER' and 'immoral' were words used by Mr. Justice Swift in describing this procedure, and he added that he was astonished to find how many persons committed for trial were kept in custody for a long period. 'I wish I could make magistrates and magistrates' clerks realise that they have no right to do this,' he said; but as Mr. Justice Horridge made similar remarks only a few months ago it is obvious that something more drastic than censure from the Bench is needed if these minor bureaucrats are to be cured of mistaking themselves for Julius Cæsar, Lucius Cincinnatus and other defunct dictators."

WHILE admitting that the facts were deplorable, Mr. Straw-splitter urged that the ass in question had only been under the control of Viscount Cave for a few weeks and that gentleman was not aware that the animal was lame.

"I realise," said Mr. Justice Bull, "that the Lord Chancellor has not yet had time to effect certain much-needed legal reforms, but as 'keeper of the King's conscience' he cannot be too careful about keeping his own conscience perfectly clear, which it cannot be while this scandalous system exists of sentencing a person first and putting him on trial after. That there should be proper facilities for the granting of bail is a matter of the utmost importance, and I trust that pettifogging magistrates will be made to realise that the new occupant of the Woolsack is a real 'Cave' man when it comes to dealing with tuppenny tyrants.

"So that the prisoner may have every opportunity to make good in his new job, he will be released on giving me his assurance that he will have the animal in his care efficiently vetted."

Saints a-d Sinners.

DRY, DREAR, AND DISILLUSIONED

A Minister of Labour who Grapples with Realities

by HESKETH PEARSON

MANY years ago, when he first entered Parliament, I had a long talk with Arthur Steel-Maitland. It was not a very interesting talk, but I recall one strangely self-revealing passage. "A truly democratic Government," he said, "is impossible, and even if it were possible it would be absurd." I agreed with him, of course. Anyone outside Bedlam couldn't help agreeing with him.

Where we disagreed was over the question of the type of man whom an informed democracy should choose to govern it. There, though I was only a youngster at the time, we were at loggerheads—and we remain at loggerheads.

The business of ruling, in my opinion, ought only to be undertaken by religious men, by men with a strong sense of moral responsibility. The business of ruling, in his opinion, should be in the hands of those who have the knack of management. Which simply means that to govern well is to "wangle" well! In spite of this he used to believe in progress and looked forward to a marked improvement in the standard of living.

IT'S an awkward thing to minister for Labour in a Conservative Government; because Labour will not believe in the good faith of any Conservative. Yet there is no reason to assume that Mr. Baldwin's heart bleeds less profusely for the under-dog than Mr. Maxton's—though perhaps he doesn't talk so much about it!

The new Minister of Labour is a classical scholar. He is supposed to be an authority on economics. He was a Varsity "blue." And he has recently been managing-director of a big City firm. Four quaint qualifications for a man who has to tackle the unemployment question.

His personal characteristics may be aptly summed up as dryness, dreariness and disillusionment. At the age of forty when most men reach their mental climacteric, he left the high-road of ideals for the side-track of realities. Meaning, he came to the conclusion that the world was a hopeless proposition and decided to make his own life as pleasant as possible. No one can blame him for that.

Sir A. Steel-Maitland.

But now that Sir Arthur has re-shouldered the burden of office (a pretty ticklish office, too) he must try to "make life livable for the mass of mankind"—which he once told me was the main object of all honest politicians. And he must start by recapturing some of that lost hope of his. No man ever did anything worth doing without the firm belief that it *was* worth doing.

HE knows perfectly well that the crime of civilisation is not unemployment, but a faulty credit and distributive system. People go hungry while food goes bad. Wearing apparel is moth-eaten in the storehouses while thousands are insufficiently clad.

If the Conservatives really grapple with this problem, the bugbear of Socialism will vanish from the land. Baldwin wants to solve it. Will his followers follow? Palliatives are useless.

CARTOONETTES and Topical Jingles

by FRANK HOLLAND

For this base scheme—a wild man's dream—
He'll strive for all his worth,
For—unlike John—" his eyes are on
The ends of all the earth."

The whole world knows what John Bull owes
He pays—and makes no fuss;
So let's advise our late Allies
To pay their debts to us.

When gains like these are made from teas
By our stout profiteers,
We quite agree that well may tea
Be called "the cup that cheers."

"I don't like much this thing to touch,"
Says Baldwin," to be candid.
I'm not at all what you would call
One of the 'horny handed.'"

THE GREAT FOOD JUGGLE

IT is possible to effect a reduction of from 3d. to 4d. per pound in meat prices, says the writer, who shows how we could curtail the activities of the profiteering middlemen

by **The Rt. Hon. CHRISTOPHER ADDISON** *(Formerly Minister of Reconstruction).*

THE appointment of the Royal Commission on Food Prices means that the Government is in search of a policy or a sedative. Much water will have passed through the mill before this Commission reports; and who can tell what then will be the issue before the country?

We have just had the report of the Linlithgow Committee on a kindred topic—with its display of how middlemen, adding nothing to the value, manage to multiply the cost twice or even thrice between the producer and the consumer. We have also had the Royal Commissions in agriculture and the report of a Committee on trusts. What we need is the courage and sense to apply in a practical form the lessons we have so lately learnt.

The most get-at-able and the largest single ingredient of food costs is that which arises after the producer has been paid his price and before the consumer gets the food.

Gigantic Profit.

On November 18 the highest wholesale price of Australian beef *in London* was 5½d. per pound. The following day the *Morning Post* reported that "an average of 50 per cent. profit on the Smithfield prices should cover the distributor, whereas the profits often range, on the average for worst and best cuts, up to 150 to 200 per cent. on the carcase price," and it stated that, on Australian beef, "sold wholesale at approximately 4d. per pound at Smithfield, consumers have had to pay 10d. for the same meat in the East End, and as high as 1s. per pound in the West End."

We are asked to believe that:

It costs *more* to transport a side of beef from Smithfield to, say, Long Acre or Peckham, cut it up, sell it over a counter and make its contribution to the rent, rates, taxes, wages and profits of those concerned, than it does to mate the cow, feed her while with calf, provide food and herding for the offspring for two years or more, get it to the slaughter-house, cover all the costs there, as well as those of cold storage and loading, pay shipping costs thousands of miles to London, dock dues, transport and sale charges in Smithfield and provide all through its share to the rent, rates, taxes, sinking fund, wages, profits and other charges of all the numerous parties concerned.

The thing is ridiculous. The Ministry of Food supplied Australian meat to the people of London at less than 2d. per pound over the cost when landed at the docks. Even at this figure there was a profit of nearly three millions and everybody concerned was well paid for his work. Why, then, do we tolerate a system under which the housewife has to pay 7d. or 1s. when 2d. or—to be generous—say, 3d. would amply cover all reasonable charges?

The Public Pays.

The fact is that during the war and afterwards the public grew accustomed to pay high prices generally and traders to big profits. The distributive traders who hold the supplies, both as individuals and as amalgamations, have found that they can get the public to pay high prices, and the public accordingly pay.

Amalgamations, it is true, might promote efficiency, but their paramount purpose and effect are dramatically displayed in the Report of the Committee on Trusts which came to me as Minister of Reconstruction in April, 1918. Take this astounding but typical conclusion of the section of the Report on Building Materials Amalgamations:

"In the course of our investigations we have come across no combination whose primary object is to increase the efficiency of business, but since our enquiry has not covered the whole ground it is possible such may exist. In every case examined the primary object has been to regulate prices."

In other words, the price of meat is determined, not by the cost in Smithfield, but by what the holders of supplies can get the people to pay.

How to Deal with Extortion.

How can this public extortion be dealt with? You can either adopt the method of exposure and punishment, or of prevention. I believe strongly that the latter method is the only one likely to be successful.

What, then, are the essentials of the preventive method? They will be found embodied in the Munitions of War Amendment Act and in other subsequent war Acts.

They are: (1) Power to ascertain costs; (2) to fix prices; (3) to regulate or give directions as to distribution; and (4), if need be, to purchase supplies ourselves and arrange further distribution.

There are plenty of fair-minded and expert cost accountants to be had who will tell us to the fraction of a penny what costs are, and what prices ought to be after allowing ample payment for all concerned and to cover all charges.

Dr. Addison.

For my part I believe that the national purchase of food-supplies on a long-term contract is the surest way of moderating and stabilising prices, but I will confess that my experience at the Ministry of Munitions of the widespread exercise of the first three powers suggests that if we were prepared courageously and fairly to exercise them the existing trade organisations would do the work willingly.

A goodly number of agents and parasitic middlemen of different grades who do nothing to add to the value of goods would no doubt be dispensed with.

The importance of this subject cannot be exaggerated. We could certainly count on a reduction of from 3d. to 4d. per pound to the consumer in meat prices, and the amount of money this would set free every week either for the purchase of more food or of other goods would have an incalculable effect on other industries besides being of direct assistance to every housewife.

Two Million Jobs Going

SHOWING how our unemployment problem might be handled, and our race made stronger and healthier.

by **Major E. HAMMOND FOOT**

THE country that keeps its wealth circulating internally by producing its own food-supplies, has greater security and pull over a country that neglects its agricultural resources and imports food at a cost each year of hundreds of millions of pounds.

Such a country cannot supply its people with cheap food, or stand the financial strain of a protracted industrial depression, without coming to a standstill such as we are fast approaching in our export trade.

It is a palpable fact that our great towns are overcrowded with derelict workers, who are costing the Revenue, the County and the Urban ratepayer over one hundred millions a year, without in any way eliminating or even relieving unemployment.

It is a very important fact that this appalling cost of unemployment is not the only evil of industrial stagnation; there is the great soul-destroying idleness, the lethargy of despair, the fear that fills the stoutest hearts, reducing to the lowest ebb the spirit and vitality of the bravest men and women.

There is room in Britain to absorb half a million families in agricultural pursuits without depriving a single farmer of a living. There is room to give security, health and contentment on the land to some two million men, women and children. There is room to open out an avenue of escape to every able-bodied, intelligent masterman now walking the streets.

Major E. Hammond Foot.

There is enough ability and patriotic enthusiasm to organise small-holder colleges to train men and women in the work of the small-holding on the lines of the Danish small-holder colleges. Denmark has proved, under worse climatic conditions, and in spite of poorer soil, that the small-holder gets more out of an acre of land than the big farmer.

To launch such an undertaking in this country, we have legislative advantages over Denmark through the power of acquiring land for small-holdings by compulsory purchase. If Mr. Baldwin has perception he will see that the answer to the riddle of unemployment and housing lies in this direction; that two birds can be killed with one stone—the opening up the country to the people on the Danish and Colonial lines, and the building of homes for them.

Such a policy would absorb the one and a half million unemployed scattered throughout the country. It would increase and stimulate internal trade. It would develop the rural industries out of all recognition. Bacon, cheese and dairy factories, and beet-sugar factories would spring up and pave the way to wealth, security and prosperity.

By sure and rapid means such a policy would increase our agricultural productivity, and the manhood and the untapped potential wealth of the country, now stagnating, would transform a dead-weight dole-deficit into a net gain of from £100,000,000 to £200,000,000 per year, by the home production of food which at present we prodigally purchase from abroad.

For such an undertaking Mr. Baldwin must employ a personnel chosen from the class which proved invaluable in the war, young men who brought their enthusiastic common-sense, their practical, matter-of-fact business knowledge and patriotism to bear on the military situation, and turned our citizens by the million into highly trained soldiers in an incredibly short time.

They would grasp the real meaning of the work upon which they were engaged, and would realise that they were building up hundreds of thousands of secure family units that would revitalise the deteriorating manhood and womanhood of to-day. They would be building up a great and truly free community.

The children born under these natural and free conditions would be the fore-runners of a stronger, cleaner, healthier and happier race than those who now first see the light of day, and pass their lives in the dismal squalor of our big congested towns.

If the Conservatives worked on these lines they would succeed.

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages of Celebrities, Notorieties, and occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Rt. Hon. LORD BIRKENHEAD,
Secretary of State for India.

MY LORD,—I trust that there will be no repetition of the suppression of a name in a British court of justice, such as occurred in the now notorious "Mr. A." case. That you were right in raising the ban is beyond question. It removes a slur on justice, dissipates morbid curiosity and lifts unjustifiable suspicion from a number of Indian princes who rightly protested against the results of this misguided secrecy. Such methods invariably defeat their own purpose, and no one probably was less appreciative of them than "Mr. A." himself. JOHN BULL.

To A. A. PURCELL, Esq.,
Trades Union Congress.

SIR,—The Soviet papers in Moscow published a message purporting to have been given by you when on your recent visit to Russia, in which you describe Soviet Russia as "the Brightest Jewel in the World's working-class Crown." There is an Irish proverb which says, "Don't speak of hemp in the house of a man who was hanged." It is not much more diplomatic to talk of crown jewels in Russia. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir WM. JOYNSON-HICKS,
Home Secretary.

DEAR SIR,—While I agree that John Syme has become an intolerable nuisance, I protest against his incarceration among criminal lunatics at Broadmoor. Syme is not a criminal lunatic. He is a man with a grievance, and although I have taken him severely to task for his failure to abide by the investigation which was held by the late Government, he has my sympathy in this instance. A generous and more economic way of keeping him quiet would be to give him the pension he would have got in the ordinary course of events, and I hope you will give this point your attention. Your present attitude is unfair. JOHN BULL.

To M. D. LINLEY, Esq.
Francis Linley, Ltd., London, W.

SIR,—I am with you in your protest respecting illegally conducted alien workshops in this country. You referred to a room in Soho which should not have accommodated more than twelve workers, but in which twenty-six tailoresses and two men cutters were employed. You pointed out that this room, in common with hundreds of others, had never been registered as a factory or workshop and had therefore escaped the attention of health inspectors. The Ministry of Labour might well make an organised search for such workshops with their sweated labourers. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,
Foreign Secretary.

DEAR SIR,—I congratulate you on following the admirable precedent set by your predecessor, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, in going in person to the meeting of the League of Nations Council in Rome. Anything that can enhance the prestige of the League is an excellent thing, and that you should deem it of sufficient importance to demand your presence should give it a much-needed atmosphere of reality to your fellow-countrymen.

JOHN BULL.

To JUDGE AMPHLETT, K.C.,
Birmingham County Court.

YOUR HONOUR,—A young Jewish tailoress, tired after her hard day's work, was accustomed to take an exercise walk at night in the Birmingham streets. She was arrested for soliciting, and the doctor's evidence completely established her character. You sympathised with the policeman who was mulcted for arresting her. The public will sympathise with the young woman, exposed through a police error to a most horrible charge simply because she walked through the streets at night. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. WINSTON CHURCHILL, M.P.,
Chancellor of the Exchequer.

DEAR SIR,—I have no doubt you are already giving the question of Allied Debts your earnest attention, but it seems to me that the time has now come for some very plain speaking on your part. France is making arrangements to pay America. If France can pay America, she can pay us. To my mind that is all that needs saying.

JOHN BULL.

To FRANK SMITH, Esq.,
Secy., Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades Fed.

SIR,—It is good news that your Federation has had a friendly conference with the employers with a view to the avoidance of disputes in the shipbuilding trade. I congratulate you upon the common-sense which recognises that strikes and lock-outs are barren remedies breeding nothing more valuable than bad blood. I look forward to the time when the better way you have chosen will be the general rule. JOHN BULL.

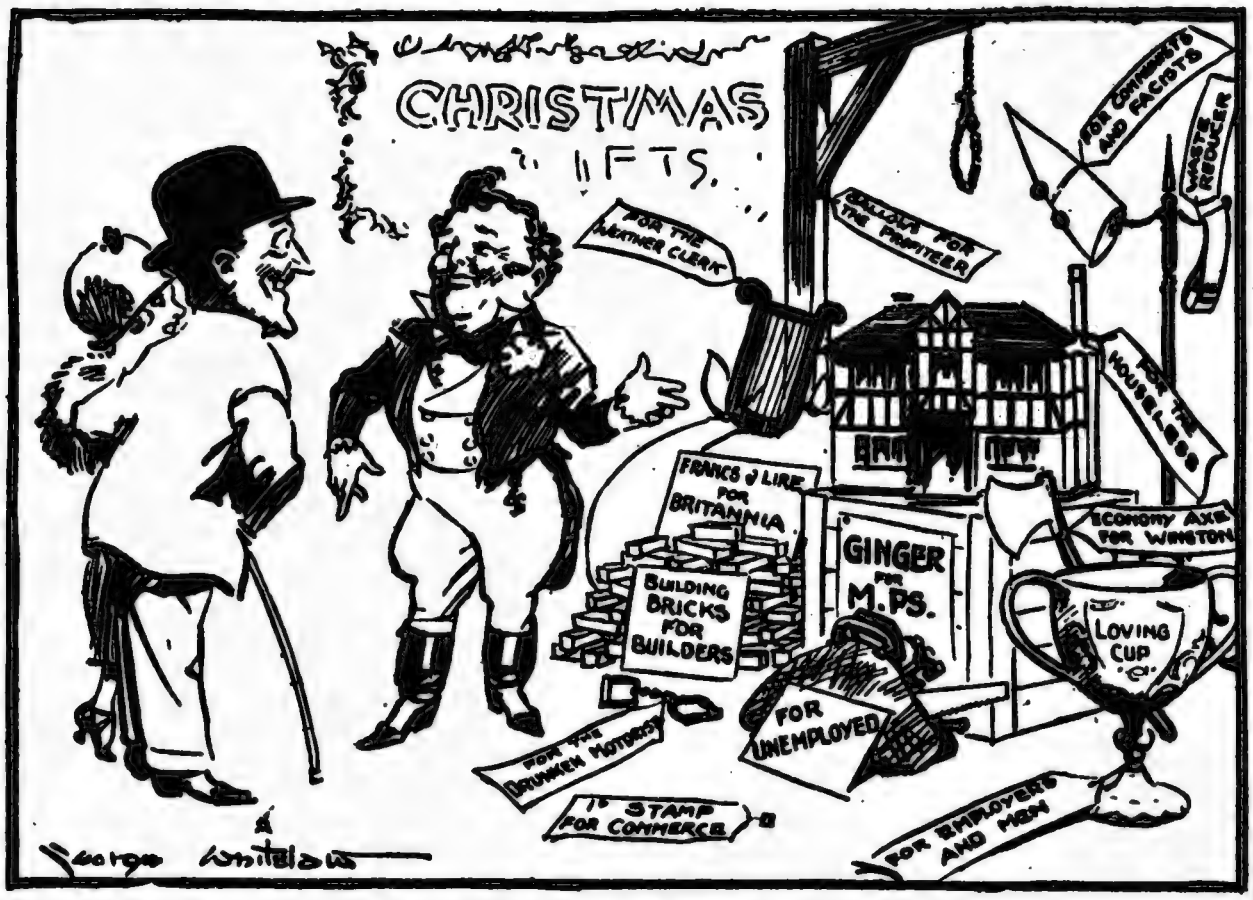
To Mrs. T. J. PURSELL,
Lambeth, S.W.

MADAM,—On his release from prison the other day, your husband was rearrested on account of arrears due to you under a maintenance order. I suppose that if you had stuck out for your rights the unlucky fellow would have gone back to jail; but you said you would forgive him the debt, amounting to £270, so that he might have a fresh start. You're the right sort evidently. If he doesn't look after you for the future let me know. JOHN BULL.

To EARL BALFOUR,
4, Carlton Gardens, S.W.1.

MY LORD,—It is very seldom that I find cause to criticise you, but criticism is merited by your remarks at the dinner of the Fishmongers' Company the other day. You stated that you did not believe "that there is a single mother in this country who would not rather have her son make a great score in a critical (sports) match than gain a scholarship." If you were only referring to the sons of wealthy families your statement might be accurate, but as scholarships are not primarily intended for these, I assume that you were meaning the working and middle classes. In which case you are wrong. The true mother is far more concerned about her son's educational progress than his prowess on the field of sport. JOHN BULL.

WHAT TO GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS!



A choice selection of appropriate gifts

Straight from the Shoulder

BERNARD SHAW:—The Government has absolutely destroyed the League of Nations.

The League has never been a reality. If it had been no Government would have dared ignore it.

* * *

DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND:—State education discourages individual enterprise.

This is sheer reactionary rubbish. Fortunately Mr. Baldwin assesses education at a truer value.

* * *

SIR A. CONAN DOYLE:—It is time that mediums should be placed under the control of recognised spiritualist bodies.

They should certainly be under control, but we should suggest quite a different sort.

* * *

T. E. NAYLOR:—The Government will not last beyond three years.

It depends on themselves. If they act instead of talking they may well last ten.

* * *

SIR AUCKLAND GEDDES:—Exploiters of the people never prosper indefinitely in this country.

You have a great chance now to teach the exploiter that at first hand.

Without Fear or Favour

THE SECRET SYRINGE

Wasted Millions

THE RT. HON. PHILIP SNOWDEN stated in his article in our last issue that one of the chief causes of our present crushing taxation, which cripples industry and grinds the poor into worse poverty, is the load of Britain's war debts. This year the harassed taxpayer must find £100,000,000 to pay interest to our foreign creditors. This is in addition to £345,000,000 for interest upon the National Debt.

In 1923 Britain arranged to pay off our war debt to America before we had stipulated that other nations, especially France and Italy, should pay off their war debts to us. The result is that this year we are to pay £35,000,000 to America; expenditure against which we can set no similar income.

Financial experts tell us that the United States dare not unload this vast sum on her money-market. It would capsize her credit system. She must store the gold in her vaults, idly, unproductively. Debt payment can only be fruitful and beneficial to any nation when there is a settlement all round. If France were to pay us without a general settlement we should not benefit. Italy, Russia, Belgium and the rest must all come in.

There is only one way of escape, and that is the way of entrance. We incurred these debts in concert as Allies; we must discharge them in concert as Allies. This is the way to stabilise world currencies, and pave the way for an all-round revival of international trade. Here is the opportunity for a master-stroke of Churchillian brilliance.

Farmers' Fairy-tales

FOR many years past our British larders have been at the mercy of American speculators. Since the bulk of our wheat has come from across the Atlantic there has been no way of escape from the ever-soaring price of bread. Where is the remedy to be found?

Not in Imperial Preference with its suggestion of food taxes. There will be no protection for the British housewife until we can obviate recourse to foreign markets by developing to the fullest extent the food-producing capacities of our native soil. No longer can the British farmer ask us to believe that this is an impossible dream.

Official figures clearly show that the cost of producing a bushel of wheat in this country is no more than the cost of producing a bushel of wheat in Canada. This disclosure, which has received less publicity than it deserves, makes hay of the excuses put forward by the Farmers' Union for the non-cultivation of British soil. The farmer needs no subsidy. Work will win.

White Slave Dens of the East

AN amazing and sinister organisation is at work endeavouring to secure white girls for the low brothels of the East. Women should be on their guard against this menace.

ONE good result of the Mr. "A." case will be to focus public attention, and, let us hope, that of the Government, upon the fatal fascination which white women exercise over coloured and Oriental males. Mrs. Robinson has said that her fondness for Sir Hari Singh was a legitimate affair of the heart.

It is not always so. Too often sheer mercenary lust plays its part, and white women, less sophisticated than Mrs. Robinson, fall victims to the odious wiles of the white slavers.

The Home Office has again announced its firm intention of stamping out this shameful traffic. Most heartily we commend this resolve; but it is to be hoped the authorities will avoid the mistake they made in regard to the drug scandal, when they hunted the small fry and allowed the greater scoundrels to go free.

Rt. Hon. Sir Wm. Joynson-Hicks, M.P., Home Secy.

The aim of the present round-up of white slave agents should be to arrest and bring to justice the real masters of the situation. This will not be done by eaves-dropping in Piccadilly or loitering in Limehouse. The big bosses of bestiality are not in this country but in the East.

From the comparative safety of India, China, and other Eastern lands these arch-polluters of womenkind direct the traffic in Europe, hiring for high wages their agents here.

AT Victoria Station the other evening a young girl waiting for a 'bus got into casual conversation with an older woman, and eventually both boarded an East-bound vehicle. In the crush of passengers the girl felt a pricking sensation in her arm. A few minutes later, seized with faintness, she had to leave the 'bus, and on entering a neighbouring café was closely followed by her chance acquaintance of the pavement, who, full of eager protestations of sympathy, wanted to take charge of her for the rest of the journey home.

Very wisely the 'bus-conductor objected, and the she-devil was unable to complete her villainous work.

Later the girl was examined by a doctor. Eight hypodermic punctures were found on her arm corresponding to as many needle-marks on the sleeve of her coat. She had been wickedly and deliberately drugged when entering the 'bus, and only a miracle, or, if you will, the intervention of Providence, had saved her from an unspeakable fate.

WERE it not for the fact that this is well authenticated it might read as picturesque fiction, but we can vouch for the accuracy of the incident. The National Vigilance Society, which exists to protect women and girls against the perils of the streets, tells us that the white slave traffickers no longer resort to the doping method of trapping their victims. We tell the Society bluntly that it is shutting its eyes.

By all manner of foul means girls are being trapped and kidnapped in the heart of London and sold into the painted servitude of Continental brothels or into the lurid harlotry of Oriental vice. This is a bold statement, but we know what we are talking about.

For the honour of our British womanhood this traffic must be stopped, and the prestige of the white races freed from its foulest stain.

Actions—not Words

THE new Parliament has opened with no worse omen than is furnished by the disgraceful scramble for seats which the most ancient Legislature in Europe thinks not unworthy of its dignity. It is now fitting that the voice of the public should be heard, reminding Mr. Baldwin of what the country expects of his Government.

To the Conservative Ministry this journal is no more and no less friendly than to its predecessors. We judge Governments not by their labels but by their achievements. As often as a Tory Administration acts wisely in the interests of the people we shall applaud; as often as it lapses into reaction we shall protest.

The great test questions are housing, taxation, food and unemployment. If the unemployment evil is not abated, the Government will have failed; as it will if houses are not found for the homeless at rents they can afford; if it imposes taxes on the people's food; if it fails to punish the food-adulterer and to sandbag the profiteer.

If, on the other hand, the Government contributes generously to the solution of these problems it will justify the confidence of the electorate, and deserve a renewal of that confidence.

The temptation of this Government, with its huge majority, will be to make capital out of its apparently impregnable position.

We look to Mr. Baldwin to resist the pressure of the reactionaries, and to use his great power wisely and boldly for great ends.

Rusty Religion

IF all who professed Christianity would make a point of practising it this world would soon become an earthly paradise. But so many mistake the shadow for the substance of the Faith. That is why so many religious revivals leave no permanent mark. Passing waves of emotion, they do little to advance the cause of true religion.

None would regret this more than "Gipsy" Smith. He has been at pains, both in these columns and at the Albert Hall, to explain that Christianity is not a theory, but a life; that a religion which does not mould men's lives is not a religion at all.

Revivals may justly be tested by the change they effect, not simply in the language, but in the lives of converts. As St. James wrote long ago: "True religion and undefiled is to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction."

Religion must show itself in conduct; then the present turning of men's minds towards spiritual things may be a measureless boon.

The Rt. Hon. Sir John Simon, K.C., M.P., Counsel for the Bank in the Mr. "A." Case.

Moral Sewers of Britain

DOES the heart of woman desire luxury, ease and splendour, or the love of a good man and a happy home? We all heard of the woman who gave herself to a black man because he could give her luxury. What of her sweeter sisters?

by "A GENTLEMAN WITH A DUSTER."

DURING the disgusting law case which recently filled Lord Darling's court, and also the columns of the daily newspapers, an Englishwoman was asked whether she had entertained the idea of going to an Eastern country to live as the mistress of its coloured ruler. She replied in the affirmative.

But this was not all. She boldly gave her reason. She said that she had been perfectly willing to go to the East as the mistress of this Asiatic *because he was able to give her everything that the heart of woman could desire.*

When I read this statement I thought of all the cheerful mothers in our English slums, and wondered whether the witness in the law courts had ever really thought what it is that the heart of a natural woman desires. I have no doubt in the world that the good mother of the slums would like to be rich, and I have no doubt that many of them fall asleep at night telling themselves stories of uncles in America or cousins in Australia who are going to appear one day and deliver them from all their troubles. But I am equally certain that no good mother in the slums would purchase all the wealth of the Indies by one moment of defilement or at the cost of one single act of disloyalty to her husband and her children.

HERE, lighted up by a light so that the slowest and dullest may behold it, we see one of the most striking of all the strange facts of human personality which confront and baffle the student of mankind. There are many women in the world who see no shame at all in continual unchastity, and who are ready to sell themselves at any moment to a man ready to pay their price. These women, furthermore, are so curiously minded that their logic can justify any degradation of the body or the soul. Let the price be high enough, that is the condition, and they are convinced that to refuse prostitution would be—not an act of virtue—but an act of sheer lunacy.

Now, compare these women with the thousands of women and girls in London who would rather die than surrender their self-respect or traffic with their purity, and who are cheerfully content to live desperately hard lives of drudgery and poverty so long as they can keep their souls unspotted by the world.

WHAT an infinity separates one woman from the other! It is as if we were confronted, not by two sisters, but by two specimens of entirely different species—let us say, a vulture and a dove, or a maggot and a hare. But these two women are most closely related: they are all but sisters, born of the same race, under the same skies, heirs of the same language and religion, contemporaries; how shall we account for the fact that, spiritually, they are living in two different worlds?

It is not an excessive criticism to say that two such women are more vitally and tremendously sundered in all those things that constitute the life of the human soul than our planet and the farthest of invisible stars.

What is rational to the one is not merely questionable, but entirely unthinkable, to the other. What is logical and desirable to the one is foul madness and the vilest of all abhorrences to the other. Two such women may get into the same 'bus, shop at the same counter, sit side by side at the same theatre, eat and drink under the same roof; but one of them thinks about life in a manner which the other cannot begin to comprehend, and so far as their hearts are concerned they are as different as roses from sewage and as peace from war.

IF we look closer into this astonishing disparity we shall find that the soul of difference between two such women is something far more difficult to understand than a matter of mere attitude. It is not a case of one woman regarding life from the materialistic point of view and the other from the spiritual point of view. It is something more remarkable. It is a case of each woman seeking what she most desires, and living a sincere and logical life after the true affections of her own heart.

The average good woman, let us say a cheerful young seamstress in the slums, or a shop-assistant living her leisure in the suburbs of London, is not fighting a fierce battle with temptation. She is not good at the cost of agony and tears. She is not pure, sweet, loving and unselfish against her will. Her will is that she should be pure, sweet, loving, and unselfish. Her woman's heart desires these things. She does not want to grovel; she does not want to be a leprous shame to womanhood. If you were to ask a hundred such girls what it is they desire, ninety-nine out of the hundred would assuredly reply a home of their own, a husband they can love, and a child at their breast.

SAY to such girls, "But the heart of a woman desires luxury, ostentation, ease, splendour, and continual excitement; would you not eagerly take such things if a man offered them to you in abundance?"—and see what answer they will make to you.

But turn to the vampires and leeches of debauchery and ask them whether they could be contented with an obscure home in the suburbs, with the love of a man whose wages are measured by shillings, and contented with the kisses of a child in their arms; ask them that question and see how they will spurn you for a milksop, a killjoy, and a sanctimonious humbug.

The world is filled with people travelling in contrary directions, and the human heart cherishes every desire in the universe from the sublime ardours of heaven to the filthiest hankerings of the pit. We cannot understand each other, and it is sentimentalism to suppose that we are intended to try. All that we are able to say with any confidence is that the wages of sin, even in this world, if we look long enough, is death; and that it appears to be the law of the universe that what a man sows that shall he also reap.

Whether the moral lepers of mankind should be allowed freely to walk about the world, or whether they should be as securely segregated as homicidal maniacs and dangerous criminals, is another question.

'WARE CHRISTM

The tragedies behind many of the Christmas "Slate" clubs.

THIEVING is, at best, a mean and despicable business. It has excuse under stress of poverty. It wears an aspect of romance when, as in the case of Robin Hood, it despoils wealth for the benefit of penury. But there is a form of rascality peculiar to this season, so utterly contemptible in purpose, so tragically cruel in effect, that one simply rages to see it recur and prosper year after year, unhindered and unrestrained by law.

Poor people whose most rigid economies cannot possibly exceed a few pennies a week, scrape to pay a few weekly coppers to a "loan," "slate," or —ominously denominated—Diddlum Club. Every week through many months the small subscription is rigorously raised.

Mary's boots take water; little Jack cries for sugar-sticks. Never mind; Christmas is coming. There shall be new boots for Mary, sweetstuff galore for Jack. One gorgeous orgy of economised pennies shall make up for the long starvation of joy.

The year has been dull, but Christmas shall be merry.

Then, a few days or a few weeks before the climax of eager expectancy, comes the news that the Club's treasurer has embezzled the funds! Mary's new boots, little Jack's toffee, all the secret preparation, all the stinting and saving, all the dream of Christmas happiness, come to a sudden and miserable end.

The money has gone. There will be no new boots. There will be no special fare. It may be that there will be no Christmas dinner.

Mr. Frank B [illegible], who suggests legislati[on] the Slate Clubs

Mary and Jacky may have to be content with the usual bread and margarine *on Christmas Day*, because the treasurer of the savings club was a swindler.

Yet, even for him, there may be excuses. There is a case this week—a 'bus conductor who was trusted with hundreds of pounds, fell short—through drinking, betting, who knows what?—became a prey to money-lenders, and drifted to the inevitable end.

One pities the poor people whose money he wasted. There will be no glow of jollity in their Christmas—no punch-bowl for the elders, no Santa Claus for the children. But one contemplates the nefarious spoiler of the feast, not altogether with bitterness. Of course, he ought not to have taken the money.

But ought it ever to have been trusted to him —hundreds of pounds in the hands of a man to

Life Beyond the Veil

THERE are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy, and Spiritualism, with its hope of eternal life, is bound to have many believers. Here A. G. G. approaches the subject with an open mind.

by A. G. GARDINER.

Mr. A. G. Gardiner, who examines the claims of Spiritualists

A CORRESPONDENT wants me to say whether I am a Spiritualist and what my views and experiences are on the subject. By way of encouragement, he sends me an article from a Sunday paper, purporting to give records by a well-known journalist of spirit interviews at which the late Lord Northcliffe apparently walked about in the room (though he was not *quite* seen) and talked volubly about "the other side," and sent messages to people on this side, and said he had seen Bonar Law, who wanted to be put in communication with Lord Beaverbrook, and so on.

My first instinct was to toss the thing into the waste-paper basket. My second, on which I am now acting, was to sit down and try to discover what I really think about a belief which, if true, is of supreme importance, and which is held by many people whose character is above suspicion. That belief is that the spirits of the dead can and do communicate with the living.

MY title to speak on the subject is quite ordinary. I am, like everybody else, profoundly interested in the great mysteries of life and death. I used to attend séances with Stead, and talked much with that gifted and incalculable man about "Julia," who, as he once said to me, was much more real to him than I was.

My attitude to the ultimate problems of existence is that of an open mind, a little suspicious of visions, but accessible, I hope, to evidence. I am neither a Rationalist nor an Obscurantist. I dislike almost equally the dogmatism of the materialist and the dogmatism of the theologian. I do not believe that science alone explains life.

I do not criticise those who peer and probe into the surrounding darkness, but I want evidence that what they see and hear are not their own imaginings projected into that darkness. I distrust the whole mechanism of mediumship, and believe that if the spirits of the dead had words of comfort for our ears they would utter them to us in ways less open to suspicion.

Many mediums are quite sincere: some of them are undoubtedly gifted with powers for which we have no scientific explanation. There is a borderland of human experience and of human faculty where the known merges into the unknown and matter and spirit seem indivisible. That borderland has been the playground of the mind in all ages. Out of it came all the devilries and phantoms with which humanity was terrorised in the dark ages—signs and wonders, magic and witchcraft. Out of it has come many modern sciences and pseudo-sciences revealing the dominion of mind over matter.

It is in this borderland that the medium dwells and becomes, it is claimed, the vehicle through which the spirits of the dead speak to the living and through which the faces and the forms of the dead take material shape.

NOW it is obvious that a claim of this sort needs the most incontrovertible proof to sustain it. It is obvious also that it lends itself as nothing else does to fraud. It plays with the most vulnerable and irrational instincts of the heart. There is in all of us a disposition to believe what we want to believe and to give credulity the benefit of the doubt when the deepest affections are engaged. Even in the case of the living, those affections can create miracles of illusion, can transform evil into good and ugliness into beauty. How much more potent are they in the case of the dead. Who that has ever lost anyone he sincerely loved would not rejoice to hear the accents of the voice again, to know that that gloomy parting at the grave was not the end?

It is upon the universal and unsatisfied yearning of humanity for "one true vision" that Spiritualism has built up its enormous superstructure of cobwebs. That multitudes of people, often wise people, often learned people, believe those cobwebs to be the solid firmament is not evidence.

IT is over seventy years since the modern cult of Spiritualism had birth in the phenomena and "rappings" of the Fox sisters at Rochester, N.Y. Like Christian Science, and like the Bacon-Shakespeare absurdity, it is a peculiarly American growth. For half a century nearly all the famous apostles of the cult had their rise on the other side of the Atlantic. In the interval the doctrine has been the subject of infinite inquiry and millions of experiments. It has made many distinguished converts whose good faith is beyond question, and whose capacity in other affairs is admitted.

But the evidence on which it rests is as airy and insubstantial as it was at the beginning. The exposures of deliberate fraud in connection with it have been numberless, and I venture to say that there is not a single proof extant which would carry conviction in a court of law. This does not mean that there is not much that has been revealed that leaves the doubter gasping, that baffles explanation, that suggests the existence of powers for which we have hardly a name. It is still true that

there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy.

And it may be asked, what harm does it do? One more illusion in a world of illusions makes no matter. If it cheers forlorn minds and brings hope to the hopeless it may, even though an illusion, claim to be a blessing. I would not deprive any mind of a faith which gives its anchorage in this difficult life and hope in the next.

BUT for myself I will not substitute the vapours of the mind for true vision. I believe that harm and not good is done by resort to the quackeries of superstition. I believe that a system that lends itself so easily to imposture and appeals so brazenly to credulity is a corrupting influence. I believe in the spiritual governance of life, and in the validity of the moral law in man; but I accept the mystery that envelopes me as the unalterable condition imposed on this phase of existence. There are sufficient lamps for our journey. If we speak truth, act justly and deal mercifully we shall not go far astray.

No, I am not a Spiritualist. And I consign my correspondent's enclosure to the waste-paper basket with the disrespect that such rubbish invites.

STMAS CROOKS!

by ALEX. M. THOMPSON ("Dangle.")

Frank Briant, M.P., suggests legislation for the Slate Clubs.

whom a "fiver" meant fortune—without any sort of check or control?

There are scores of these cases every year. Defaulting treasurers are sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Some run away. Some cut their throats. The "festive season" is the harvest-time of these tragedies.

It has been stated that "most of these clubs start in a small public-house, among 'pals.'" Where that is the case, it is obvious that the treasurer ought to be the one reliable person known to all the subscribers, the landlord of the inn. At a conference convened some time ago by the trustees of the London Savings Banks in Lambeth, one speaker applied a wise suggestion to these cases: "Make the licensee the treasurer," he said, "and bank the money with the brewery."

In other cases, it is evident that more than one trustee should be appointed.

Mr. Frank Briant, M.P., who has devoted his talents and energies to this cause for many years, tells me that a much smaller safeguard would make an infinitely greater difference: it is generally true, he tells me, that deposits cannot be taken out without proper precaution, but there is absolutely no arrangement to make sure that they will ever be paid in. Men collect money on more or less plausible grounds, in the name of more or less reputable societies, but there is no guarantee that they will bank that money for the benefit of the subscribers.

It is an old, old story.

"I'll hold the money." "Aye, but who's going to hold you?"

Men of careless habit who have never been used to the control of large funds are ready to play toss with money which does not belong to them.

Hence the annual spate of Christmas Club embezzlements. Last year there were hundreds of them. Many treasurers committed suicide. Others attributed financial discrepancies to amazing robberies and quite unpremeditated fires.

The only remedy lies in the hands of depositors. Trustees should never be less than three. It should never be left to the power of any one individual to dissipate the careful savings of the many.

The temptation is too great. The result of default is too terrible.

From the Boulevard des Capucines, Paris, A String of Pearls in a Silk Lined Case.

That's our new offer for 200 Coupons from packets of Black Cat Cigarettes, the Cigarette of highest quality and biggest value for 20 years.

Nothing pleases a lady more than a String of Pearls, and the French know how to produce them. Start saving now: your Wife, Sweetheart or Daughter will cherish them as a treasure.

Black Cat

VIRGINIA CIGARETTES

10 for 6D

THE BLACK CAT CIGARETTE CO., Dept. 8, Gifts Department, 81, City Road, London, E.C.

"FELIX" FOR THE CHILDREN.

Felix is still as popular as ever. Give the kiddies a treat this Season.

FREE FOR 100 COUPONS.

GRAVES 'THIRTY'

30 PIECES, 30 SHILLINGS

The World's finest Cutlery Value. Every piece warranted best quality

3/- Deposit

Graves Thirty Service Contains: 6 Stainless Steel Dessert Knives with Ivory-grained handles, 6 Dessert Forks, 6 Dessert Spoons, 6 Tea Spoons, 1 Table Spoon, 1 Salt Spoon, 1 Mustard Spoon (all guaranteed to wear white through all time), 1 pr stainless Sheffield Steel Carvers with finest Ivorette handles. Price 30/-

WE DELIVER the Graves 'Thirty' service on approved orders for 3/- now, and 3/- monthly. Money back if not all as represented.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE of Sheffield Cutlery and Plate, Stainless Specialities, &c. Post Free.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

WRITE FOR FREE LISTS

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Sent for 1/9

I offer magnificent horn and hornless models in oak or mahogany with any number of records on fourteen days' Free trial. Packed free and Carriage Paid. First instalment only secures immediate delivery. Write for free lists. Money refunded if dissatisfied. Thousands of Testimonials.

Chas. Frisby

111 & 113 COVENTRY.

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POSTAL BARGAIN CORNER

BRITISH GOVT. SOLID LEATHER UNIVERSE WELLINGTON BOOTS.

Ideal for winter wear. Made of very stout leather throughout. It is impossible for mud, snow or rain to penetrate them. In all sizes, 4 to 12, 15 in. high. Also lighter make 14 in. high, suitable for Women, Sizes 4, 7. Per pair 15/9

Postage and packing, 1/- extra.

Also slightly worn, perfect condition, with original soles. MEN'S ONLY. Sizes 6 to 11. Per pair 10/6

Postage and packing, 1/- extra.

Also best American Rubber, all sizes. Per pair 16/6

Postage and packing 1/- extra.

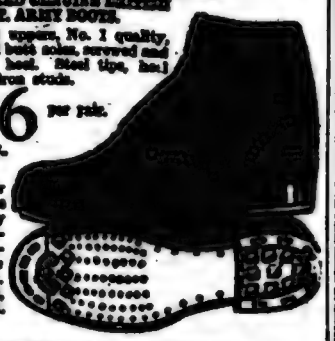
GUARANTEED GENUINE BRITISH GOVT. ARMY BOOTS.

Kip grained upper, No. 1 quality, double solid butt soles, sewed and stitched to heel. Steel tips, heel plates and iron studs.

11/6 per pair.

Postage, 1/- extra.

Each pair stamped as passed by Govt. inspectors. Guaranteed genuine all leather. Sizes 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.



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NASH & CO.,

(Dept. J.B.) 245 Oxford St., London, W.1.

DIAMONDS IN THE SCUTTLE

A SUGGESTION that the price of coal could be considerably reduced if the Local Authorities replaced the coal merchants.

by E. SHINWELL,
(Late Parliamentary Secretary of Mines Department).

MY investigations into the subject of coal prices appear to have had a salutary effect on the coal merchants. At all events, no increase in price has been imposed for some time, much to the relief of harassed consumers.

Coal dealers, however, are notoriously susceptible to weather conditions, and the next cold snap may cause a boost in that indispensable commodity which keeps "the home fires burning."

Mr E. Shinwell.

In the event of a rise in prices the poorer classes will be the first to suffer. Limited means and lack of storage facilities render the purchase of coal in small quantities unavoidable. Last winter coal of average quality was being sold in ton lots at prices ranging from 48s. to 56s. a ton, while 2s. 10d. to 3s. per hundredweight bag was charged on the London streets, often for coal of inferior quality.

The discrepancy between pithead and retail price is a mystery to the public, and in the absence of relevant facts is likely to remain so.

No complete list of pithead prices is available; even the Mines Department is unable to obtain authentic information on a matter of such fundamental importance. In the course of my enquiries it appeared that pithead prices varied from 24s. to 31s. per ton, but the quality of coal purchased, the period elapsing between the purchase and actual sale, the quantity bought at contract prices, and the profit made on specific transactions, are shrouded in mystery.

Public suspicion will be increased by the recent communique issued by the Coal Distributors' Information Committee, relating to profits for the latest period. Whereas the figure mentioned during the conference with the merchants was 9d. per ton, it now transpires that the average profit is rather more than 1s. 7d., but as this apparently relates to all sales, including considerable quantities sold to hospitals, institutions, etc., the actual profit on household coal is not revealed.

Even the Coal Advisory Committee which in 1922 conducted an exhaustive enquiry, found itself confronted by an effective barrage and was content to recommend that an effort should be made to reduce distribution charges.

Why not empower the local authorities to trade in coal? They possess machinery specially adapted for the purpose. When responsible for the administration of gas, electricity, and tramway undertakings, their purchases run into millions of tons. Therefore, the purchase of an additional few thousand tons to be retailed for domestic purposes would be a comparatively simple matter. They are accustomed to the purchase and management of horses, vehicles, and plant, while their knowledge of local needs is unequalled. The coal merchants deplore the lack of adequate sidings and stacking facilities, but this presents no difficulty to the local authority with ample accommodation.

Naturally if such powers were granted protection must be afforded the ratepayer against possible losses, but in the Bill which I submitted to the late Government adequate safeguards were provided, and no local authority would be permitted to promote a coal trading scheme until the sanction of the appropriate Government Department had been obtained.

But the mere threat to extend the field of competition might suffice. The local authority need not avail itself of power to trade if the existing agency of distribution satisfied the public. It is a wholesome deterrent to the rapacious coal dealer. The wings of potential profiteers would be clipped and the indignation of a long-suffering public mollified.

Why Not be a Cannibal?

Your body can do without so much food

by MAJOR
REGINALD F. E. AUSTIN

ONE of the great secrets of a long, healthy, vigorous life is to become cannibals from time to time. By this I do not mean we should copy the habits of our dusky brethren in certain quarters of the globe, but that we ought occasionally to feed on our *own* bodies, and give the digestive processes a much needed rest, and the organism an opportunity of cleaning house.

The experiments of men who have fasted for nearly a month prove that the fatigue, exhaustion and headache that so often supervene when abstaining from food for any length of time is due to the elimination of toxins (poisons) which have been stored up in the tissues and are thrown out into the blood on their way to be discharged from the system.

By drinking water freely, and taking a sufficiently large dose of saline salts daily, which flush out the drains of the body, they found that in spite of their loss of weight they were remarkably fit, and their faculties were quite alert.

During the virulent influenza epidemic in 1918, twenty of my bad cases with high temperature, headache, general ache, and profound prostration volunteered to try the "appetite cure."

They lived on nothing but water, diluted orange juice, and a little weak tea for four to six days, when the temperature came down and appetite manifested itself; then food was allowed. The first day's diet consisted of vegetable soup, milk and fruit. On the second day toast and butter was also given.

Later a little fish or chicken with plenty of conservatively cooked vegetables and raw salad were added. No drugs were administered other than a dose of saline salts, which was taken daily throughout the period of abstinence from food. Within eight to ten days of going sick every case was fit and well enough to return to duty, and all had excellent appetites for even the plainest of meals.

Freddy Welsh, the famous boxer, who fasted when he trained.

Eighteen years' experience of the treatment of the sick and ailing with the aid of fasting has convinced me that the dangerous complictions so often met with in influenza, measles, smallpox, enteric fever, and other acute diseases are largely the result of coaxing or forcing milk and other forms of nourishment into an organism that is telling one as plainly as it can, "For heaven's sake keep food away from me."

I do not know of any disease where fasting could not be applied with benefit for long or short periods—except, perhaps, tuberculosis of the lungs. But even here my experience is that occasional short fasts of one to three days' duration in the early stages of the disease are decidedly beneficial. They cleanse the system, promote appetite and improve digestion and assimilation.

Freddy Welsh, the ex-light-weight champion boxer of the world, always started his training for important fights with a seven days' fast. During the remaining period of his preparation he took two meals a day only. And the major portion of his daily food, supply consisted of vegetables, salads and fruit—foodstuffs that are rich in vitamines and natural alkaline organic salts.

Dotage and drivelling are, like other diseases, the result of wrong living, and not the effect of old age. Where else in the whole animal kingdom do we find a creature that becomes weak in intellect or childish in old age? This sad privilege is confined to man and his pampered pets.

FREE TRIAL OFFER

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RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

LONDON MANUFACTURING CHEMIST DISCOVERS SIMPLE HOME CURE.

Pain easily relieved and most cases of Rheumatoid-Arthritis, Rheumatism, etc., quickly and successfully treated without nauseous drugs.

FREE BOOK AND TRIAL PACKAGE.

A most useful book has just been published telling the romantic story of the discovery of Curicones—a wonderful remedy for all troubles of a Rheumatic nature. If you are a sufferer, don't delay. Send to-day for your free copy. It will be sent you gratis, together with a trial package. It may mean the dawn of a new life. A life free from pain and stiffness.

Doctors take Curicones and prescribe them for their patients. Read these extracts from letters received :—

A Human Barometer.

Drs. D. . . and B. . . . write: "Pleased to say Curicones have given good results."

Dr. J. M. D. . . . —"Have used Curicones in a case of Chronic Arthritis. They have given great relief."

Dr. B. . . . —"Send 500 Curicones to-night certain. They are excellent!"

Dr. M. . . . —"Enclosed cheque for Curicones for my daughter. I am so much better, and I want her to try them."

Also recommended by the Marquis of Normanby, Lord Hawarden, Countess Roberts, Lady Sempill, Dean Monahan, etc. They are invaluable for

RHEUMATISM — LUMBAGO — GOUT SCIATICA — NEURITIS MUSCULAR STIFFNESS — ETC.

Hundreds of letters and testimonials from Doctors, Chemists, and people in all stations of life may be seen at our offices.

Never mind whether you are told that your trouble is due to Microbes, Uric Acid, or other poison—send for the book and free trial package to-day. You will not regret it. Simply send your name, address and ailment to

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A Revolu'ion in Shaving

NO BRUSH. NO SOAP.

Is it not strange that for hundreds of years man has been scrubbing his face with soaps full of soda and has never reasoned that under such treatment the skin must suffer? Nothing is more ugly than a face that looks raw. Shaving soaps are always the same old method of shaving. They are made with soda. But now we have discovered the natural method where no brush and soaps full of soda are needed. Shavex is a skin food. One can shave in half the time, and you will get a smoother and closer shave than you have ever had, and shaving will become a pleasure instead of a torture. Your skin will look and feel like satin, and your face under this treatment will look twice as young. No after lotions are required when using Shavex. 1/- large tube lasts 3 months. At all chemists or post free from

Mr. LESLIE HENSON, the famous actor, writes:—"I use 'Shavex' every time I shave, and think it is the quickest, cleanest and most delightful preparation ever invented for shaving."

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FREE SAMPLE on receipt of 2d. stamp.

Fine for Lumbago

Musterole drives pain away and brings in its place delicious, soothing comfort. Just rub it in gently.

It is a clean, white ointment made with oil of mustard. It will not blister like the old-fashioned mustard plaster.

Use Musterole for coughs, colds, (it often prevents pneumonia), sore throat, neuralgia, headache, rheumatism, chilblains, pains and aches of the back or joints.

BETTER THAN A MUSTARD PLASTER

MILLER'S MUSTEROLE WILL NOT BLISTER

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CYCLES (from 2/6 weekly, or CASH £4 15s. All weather Models, The best that Britain builds 2/9 weekly.

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Guarantee.—Our 46 years' reputation. Money refunded if dissatisfied.

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Human Documents.

The Lure of the Stage

And Other Intensely Human Stories and Problems from Real Life

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." In every case the name and address of the writer are suppressed so that the authors may not be identified. Correspondents must send stamped addressed envelopes if they wish to be answered through the post, in cases that are too intimate or are not of sufficient interest to be helpful to others. Ten shillings is sent to each of the writers of the first three letters printed.

Missing Plans

"MY husband, who is at present in China, is a draughtsman engaged in a certain branch of the steel industry, and before he got his new post out there last December he was engaged by a firm in the Midlands carrying on the same type of business. At the time he was serving the last few weeks in the works in this country he took possession of a number of machine plans, which had been lying about his office for many months, thinking they were useless to his employers.

"In a letter that I received he told me that they had already proved a source of satisfaction to the firm he is now working for.

"The unfortunate part of the story is now to be told. Our only daughter, who is engaged as typist at the works which her father left, informs me that an anxious search for certain lost documents is being made there, and that the directors have threatened imprisonment for the man responsible for their disappearance.

"My girl suggests that I should write to her father to cover up his tracks by obtaining the papers somehow and burning them."

"Humanist" says:—*Your husband will expose himself to serious danger if he follows your daughter's foolish advice. He has taken something that did not belong to him: he should at once return the plans. He should have asked before he took the documents.*

What's in a Name?

"FIVE years ago, after only two years of married life, I left my husband because of his persistent cruelty, drunkenness and unfaithfulness, and at the age of twenty-two set out to make my own living. This I have been quite successful in doing, and up to last month I was very happy and contented, but during the fortnight which has just ended there have occurred developments which threaten to bring upon myself the stigma of the divorce court and the reputation of being a bad woman leading an immoral life.

"The events which really have given rise to this danger took place about twelve months ago, when a rich uncle of my own died in the North of England. I had occasion at that time to make the journey there with a married male cousin, both of us being interested parties, for we were both mentioned in the old man's will. We arrived at the small country town, where he lived, about midnight, and since there was no other likely accommodation we put up at the only hotel in the place.

"Unfortunately for myself, my cousin's name is the same as that of my husband, and naturally, the names which went down in the hotel book were Mr. and Mrs. —. It is this feature of the case which is causing the trouble, for in some way my husband has got to know of the matter, and is intending to sue for divorce on the grounds of my misconduct.

"I swear that the journey was made for purely business motives, and any act of a guilty nature was far from my own and my cousin's intentions."

"Humanist" says:—*You are worrying yourself unnecessarily. You can tell your story to a jury—with every prospect of being believed. Each of you had the right to use the name, and the hotel registers, if still available, will prove the correctness of your conduct.*

Blackmailing Husband.

"I was betrayed by a gentleman, who treated me well financially. Now my husband, whom I married years afterwards, wants to blackmail my former lover, now a doctor in Manchester."

Tell your blackguard husband that you will write to the gentleman and tell him, so that he may inform the police. That is the only way to deal with these pests.

The Wages of Sin.

"Betrayed as a girl, I did not like the man I afterwards married. The deception is preying on my nerves. What should I do? He thinks my child is the son of a former husband killed in the war."

I see no reason now why you should reveal the past if you are not asked to do so. Make your husband happy—that is your best security. Let the dead past bury its dead.

A British Napoleon.

"My only boy is imbued with the thought that he is to arise amongst men and become a second Napoleon. He talks of holding Britain one day against a formidable enemy, and earning a name that will go down to history for all time. His earnestness frightens me."

You need not worry. As the poet Longfellow says: "The thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts." Unless he shows some other eccentricity there is nothing to be alarmed about.

Love-Sick Nurse.

"I am nineteen years of age, and perfectly healthy. I was recently nursing in a sanatorium and left because I found I had fallen violently in love with one of the patients who was expecting his discharge. I have tried to forget—but I can't. I recognise the danger of marrying a man with tuberculosis. Is it fair to my parents, is it fair to myself, and, above all, is it fair to the man that we should marry?"

You do not say that the man is in love with you, or even knows that you are in love with him. Give yourself a chance. Leave the matter in suspense for, say, ten months. By that time possibly the problem may have settled itself.

THAT night my hostess, a very old friend of my father's, told me what she thought I ought to have been told before—the truth about my mother. It appears that my mother (who, I had always been taught, was dead) left my father when I was a baby, and went on the stage. Later, she went away with a married man—one of the actors in her company. This is why father has always been so bitter.

"This terrible news put everything else out of my head, and I had almost forgotten what the actor-manager had said to me, when a few days ago I had a letter from him. He offers me what he calls "a trial run" if I will consent to a year's training. He will pay for it himself, giving me my living expenses for that time, and will run the risk of failure, which he considers "negligible."

"THIS seems my chance. I know what asking my father would mean—instant refusal. And I love acting! Why should I suffer for what my mother did?

"Don't you think—suppose he refuses, as I'm sure he will—that I'm justified in accepting this great offer without father's consent? He's never given me any training to earn my living—if we lost our money to-morrow there's nothing I could do to earn an honest penny! Surely, it can't be wrong for me to seize this opportunity, even if he doesn't agree?

"I may never get such another chance, and all my life would be ruined. What am I to do, Humanist?"

"Humanist" says:—*I think that everyone is entitled to select a career for himself or herself. But try to get your father's sanction. If he refuses, you are, I think, morally entitled to go on with your offer—especially as you have no employment or qualifications to earn your living should your father die.*

I AM a girl of twenty, and have been very strictly brought up by my father. He has never allowed me to dance, and has forbidden me to go to theatres, which he speaks of as "inventions of the devil."

"Some months ago I was staying with some friends who were getting up private theatricals. Unknown to my father, of course, I agreed to take part. As it happened another of the guests was a well-known actor-producer. He came up to me afterwards and congratulated me on my performance.

"He seemed surprised to learn I had never been trained, and said that I had the makings of a great actress: why did I not go on the stage? I explained that my father would never consent. However, I was very flattered and pleased to think the great man had noticed me.

A £5-5-0 ALL WOOL OVERCOAT TO MEASURE FOR £2-5-0

OR IN S.B. CHESTERFIELD STYLE £2 ONLY.

WILLIE SMITH
(The Famous Billiards Player)
in his Denzil Overcoat.
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THE DENNIS IS THE MOST FASHIONABLE OVERCOAT THIS SEASON

WHEREVER YOU RESIDE WE UNDERTAKE TO FIT YOU PERFECTLY UNDER THE FOLLOWING UNIQUE PLEDGE—

If, after examining the excellent material, workmanship, and finish of this wonderful Harry Overcoat to measure you are not of the opinion that it is the greatest bargain you have ever seen, we will refund not only the amount paid but 2/6 over and above that sum to compensate you for your trouble. We also make an S.B. Lounge Suit to your special measure for £2 to which the same unequalled guarantee applies.

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If you cannot call personally, our SELF-MEASURE CHART is unfailing. You take your measures in the privacy of your home, select your cloth from the lovely range of patterns we shall send you, choose your style from the big selection of fashions we submit—and in seven days you will receive your order carefully packed.

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FREE The Patterns, Fashion Plates, Measure Chart are yours for the asking. Send us a postcard forthwith, when they will be sent per return.

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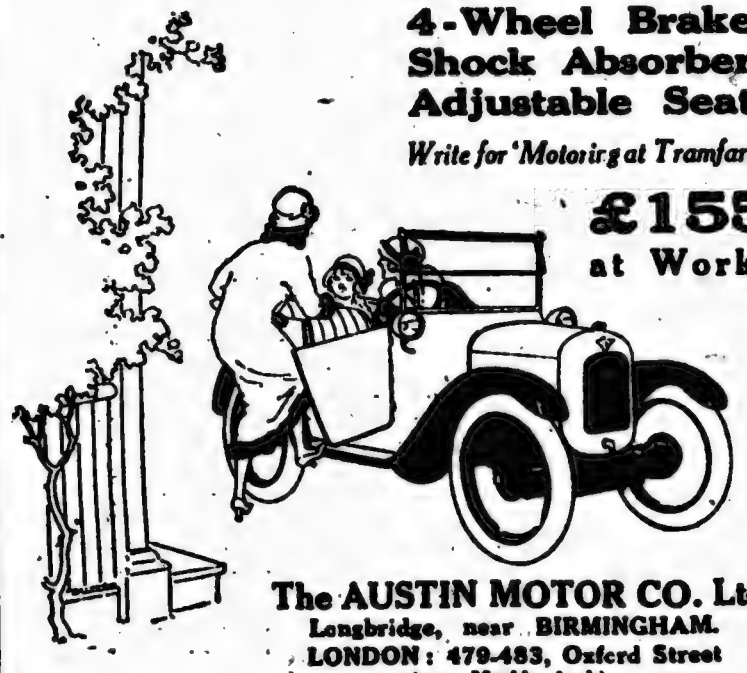
Write for 'Motoring at Tramfare.'



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A Luxury— yet a necessity

Terry's spring seat saddle shapes to the rider's body, and absorbs the shocks and vibrations which affect the delicate nerves of the spine. Gives cyclist and motor-cyclist more miles and pleasure. Try one on satisfaction or money back.

If difficult to buy locally order from us.

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For Heavyweight Machines, ... 51/6
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Give rider's weight when ordering.
List free.

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Herbert Terry & Sons, Ltd.
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14/- down brings you a Riley 'Home' Billiard Table

on 7 days' free trial

For a first payment of 14/- you will receive, carriage paid, in free packing case, the splendid 6 ft. Riley 'Home' Billiard Table (Cash Price £11 : 15 : 0), that rests comfortably on most dining tables and gives a perfect game. The balance you pay in monthly instalments whilst you use the table. There are various sizes, including one most convenient for your home.

4 ft. 4 in.	x 2 ft.	4 in.	£7	0 0
5 ft. 4 in.	x 2 ft.	10 in.	£9	0 0
6 ft. 4 in.	x 3 ft.	4 in.	£11	15 0
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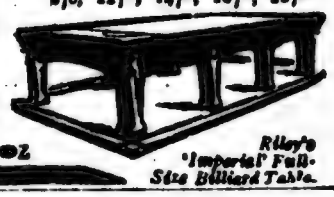
8 ft. 4 in.	x 4 ft.	4 in.	£21	10 0

or in 18 monthly payments of 8/6, 11/-, 14/-, 18/-, 26/-

FREE Send for Art List giving particulars and prices of Riley's Tables

Riley's "Combine" Billiard and Dining Tables are beautiful pieces of furniture and perfect billiard tables. Can be adjusted in five seconds. Prices range from £22 : 10 : 0, or can be had for 13 or 20 monthly payments. Riley's are the largest makers of Full-Size Billiard Tables in Great Britain. Write for particulars. Estimates given free for repairs and accessories.



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THE response to "John Bull's" Sensational Xmas Gift Offer is simply phenomenal!

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A special staff is working at top pressure night and day to keep up with the flood of applications.

The result is that huge inroads are being made into the 10,000 Sets specially set aside for our Christmas distribution.

A CHORUS OF PRAISE.

We quote below a few letters taken at random from the hundreds we have received in praise of our Great Offer:

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"The 'John Bull' Pen in my opinion was designed by a real 'penman' and finished by a jeweller. Anywhere else it would cost at least 17/6."

PERCY BERRYHALL,
19, West St., Lock, Staffs.

Why Pay More?

"Your Pen beats all and I am very hard to please. I showed my Pen the other day to a friend who had just paid 25/- for one. He is now 'raging' that he spent the 25/-."

F. CAVANAGH,
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A Bargain Indeed.

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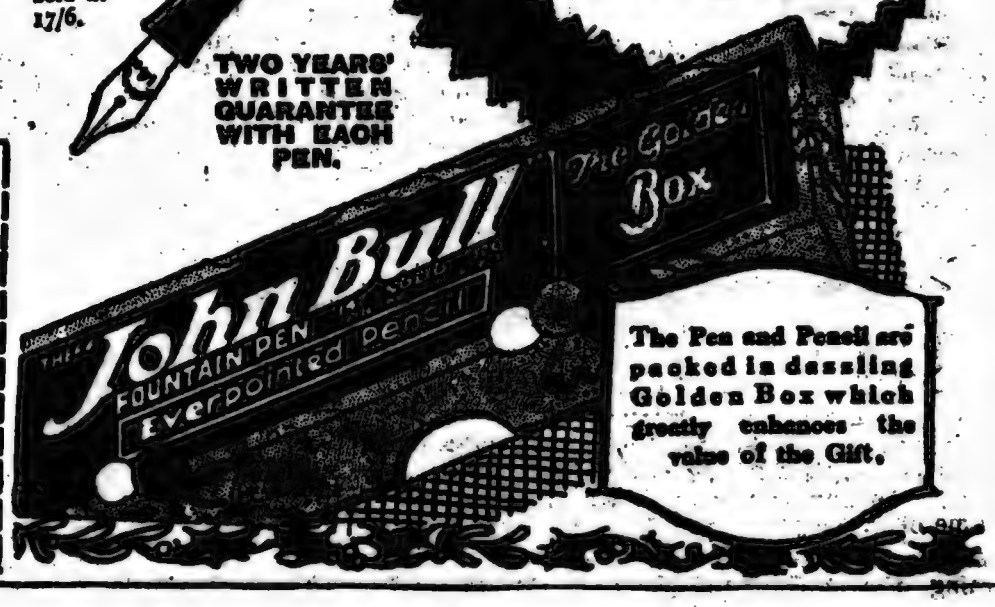

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(Write in CAPITALS name or initials you wish engraved.)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

I enclose Cheque/P.O. for 5/6 (including postage, insurance and clip). Cross "& Co." and make payable to "John Bull." State if fine, medium, broad nib. J.B., 13.12.24.

Words Winged to Women

MUST WOMEN OBEY?

The New Spirit in Matrimony.

by **MABEL HORNER.**

SAID I to my young friend who is happily married, "I see that the clergy have turned down the proposal that both parties to the marriage contract shall wear a wedding ring."

"And quite right, too," said she.

"Moreover, there's at least seventy-eight of them who fear that unless modern woman promises to obey her husband as lord and master, the very foundations of society will rock and shatter."

Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., a worker for equality of the sexes.

"And quite right, too," she answered.

My young friend's laughing words betoken loose thinking. It is strange that many good men and women miss the vital point at issue whenever changes are suggested.

Thus it was in the House of Clergy when certain members, speaking against revision of the marriage service, babbled absurdities regarding the solution of modern marriage difficulties.

If spiritual leaders are divided upon matters which so vitally affect the interests of women and children, then women themselves accept the challenge to their womanhood and unite to bring about such changes for the better as must be. Even among women there is much loose thinking in this tremendous matter of the marriage contract. The time to correct that slackness is now. At present the subject is in the forefront of politics.

Take first the wedding ring. Upon the practice of ring wearing the attitude of the early Quakers sheds some light. In their repudiation of symbols, which so often come to be worshipped instead of the thing they represent, Quakers rejected the wedding ring.

Young Quaker brides wore no rings. In later days, as this led to misapprehension, rings were adopted. The contracting pair now usually exchange a ring. In their simple service of marriage the words that make them one are the same for each. And no one can be found to deny that Quakers have steadily maintained a particularly high standard of purity in family life. Why, then, do even clergy fear?

THERE is much to fear when standards for men and women are unequal.

We need only take the non-progress of Eastern countries for an illustration. In Eastern lands where the subjection of women is at its worst, the lowest of all moral standards prevail. Some of the evils of that traditional subjection have been brought to our shores by our alien population. And here is another reason why women themselves must work for perfect equality.

We women of the West cannot be bound by traditions that took their rise in the East. Those traditions were cradled in ignorance. Women being chattels, of course, must obey. It would lead to disaster otherwise. But how does it work out in our case, to-day?

LATELY, a wife wrote to me in sore distress. She had brought, not only love and fidelity to her share of the marriage bargain, but money as well. There were a few years of happy life. Children were born. Then came woeful change. The man began to gamble, to lose.

"Now he has ordered me to give up to him the deeds of this house which is the only home for me and my babies. He wants to raise money to waste. Am I to obey? I know, when I married, that was what I promised."

In this case, in my opinion, such a promise is well broken, but better still if never made. The thought of selling one's conscience by a slavish promise of obedience is both wrong and out of tune with all modern thought. It is against the perfect trust and comradeship of a perfect married life.

But think once more, those who would say, "And quite right, too," when clergy, short-sighted enough to wish to stem the tide of progress, would keep woman in the place she had before man was civilised. It is in the interests of our national advancement that women should have complete equality.

A nation will not rise higher than the standard given to its women.

To "Bullets" Competitors

£250 added to last week's prize list.

"BULLETS" Competition, which for over twelve years has built up an unassailable reputation for fairness and honesty in every detail, has nothing to fear from the searchlight of publicity.

In connection with "Bullets" Competition No. 542, the result of which appeared last week, certain facts have come to our notice which we consider should at once be placed before our readers.

The First Prize of £250 in that contest was awarded to the clever *Bullet* — "Long Enough — Profiteers' "Rope" Where's "Drop"? The result having been finally decided, we immediately wired the news to the £250 winner, whose name appeared on the winning coupon as "Temple F. Hill," of 11, Raeburn Close, Golder's Green, London, N.W.

AFTER the despatch of the wire, but before the cheque for £250 was sent, a Mr. H. Mason, who is employed in the Advertisement Department of Odhams Press, informed us that the £250 winner was his wife, who had competed under the name of "Temple F. Hill."

There is nothing in the rules governing the Competition which debars the wife of an Odhams Press employee from competing, though, of course, an employee *whose work is in any way connected with the adjudication of the competition* is strictly prohibited from entering.

MR. H. MASON himself, as an advertisement copy-writer, works in a department in which he could have had no possible influence on the result of the contest. But though merit and merit alone gained the "Bullet" the First Prize, it is unsatisfactory to us that the wife of an employee of Odhams Press should gain a big "Bullets" award, even though her effort deserved such recognition.

Therefore, while placing the full facts before our readers, we have decided to award a Second £250 in this particular Competition. The winning competitor, "Temple F. Hill," has duly been paid the £250 cheque. To the Second Prizewinner, Mr. A. Howard, of 52, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge (who has already received the Second Prize of £100), we have sent an additional cheque for £150, making him in effect First Prizewinner of £250.

The Third Prizewinner, Mr. H. E. Hutton, of 3, East Parade, Huddersfield, has been paid an additional cheque of £50, thus making him in effect the Second Prizewinner of £100. Similarly, Mr. J. Vaughan, of 164, Eastfield Road, Southsea, becomes Third Prizewinner instead of Fourth; Mr. H. G. Want, of 11, Bolwell Street, Lambeth Walk, London, S.E., becomes Fourth Prizewinner instead of Fifth, and Mr. H. Toft, of 68, George Street, N.W.1, receives the Fifth Prize of £10 instead of the £5 award announced.

His place in the £5 list is taken by Mr. D. Evans, 1, Mount Street, Caemawr, Morriston, Swansea, whose £2 10s. prize now goes to Mr. H. Pople, of 16, High Street, Burnham-on-Sea, originally a Turkey Prizewinner for his "Bullet"—"Humble Pie—Better Than Hungry Pride." Additional cheques have been posted to all these winners, and corresponding adjustments made throughout the prize-list.

THUS by the substantial addition of £250 to the prize money originally announced for "Bullets" Competition No. 542, we have dealt with this matter in a manner which, we are satisfied, will be appreciated by all competitors.

THIS FINE XMAS HAMPER

containing

A FINE TURKEY, ABOUT 8 to 9lbs
A 2lb. Plum Pudding, 1 lb. jar of Mince-meat, 1 Tin each of Indian Corn, Green Peas, and Soup, and 1 Camembert Cheese, or tin of Peaches.

All for 21/-. Carriage free U.K.

Testimonials arrive daily—always open to inspection. Cross P.O.s Lloyds Bank, and order to-day to avoid disappointment.

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Why waste good money on poor, indifferent, and unsuitable Corsets, when you can have this famous Ambron Gold Medal Health Corset sent you on Home Approval Terms, so that you can try on and judge before purchase? You are dealing, too, direct with the maker, and this saves you valuable shillings. A more graceful Corset than my new Model has never been designed. It is a Corset to be proud of, one that renders full justice to figure, dress, and appearance. By sending coupon with 1/- deposit you can prove this for yourself.

I have now brought the price down to rock-bottom, for this 14/11 model is reduced to 8/11. Such wonderful value is a world's record. Let me send you this magnificent Corset on Home Approval for 1/- deposit. If you appreciate it, then pay balance of price in one sum or 1/- weekly.

HOME APPROVAL COUPON.

By which you get 14/11 Ambron Corset for 8/11.

Simply write full name and address on a piece of paper, to which pin this Coupon.

Please send me a 14/11 Ambron Corset at the reduced price of 8/11, on approval. My measurements are:—

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I enclose 1/- deposit, with 6d. postage, and if I do not immediately return Corset I will either complete purchase in one sum of 7/11, or by weekly instalments of 1/- each. Please cross Postal Orders thus: / /

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5 LISTS. 7 LEAGUES.
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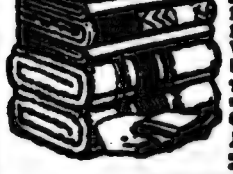

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Big Races Wanted Over

Why Jumping Fails—Our Code Tips Make Money—"Mumpty's"

THE greatest fault I have to find with National Hunt racing is the lack of big races. The Grand Sefton is run before the end of the Flat and, outside a few £1,000 handicaps, there is not an event which creates a big noise until the Grand National in March. It is a great pity, for I think the majority of racegoers who follow the sport enjoy watching it more than the Flat. A race under Jockey Club rules is a flash and a thrill. Over the sticks you have a test of endurance, two close views of the horses as they pass the stands—sometimes three—and your money's worth. The winter game is going ahead but we need a few Lincolns and City and Suburbans.

Our "Two-a-Day" Successes.

Our "Two a Day" Make Racing Pay." You have seen this couplet before, and need no telling that it refers to the code selections which I promised should be continued throughout the jumping season.

The first week's tips ended with The Sheriff—9 to 4, Le Cellier—5 to 1, and showed a profit of over eight points. Only one selection was unplaced.

Up to the time of going to press four of my second week's selections have won. Boddam—5 to 1; Corlach—10 to 11; Irish Cheer—evens; Top Light—4 to 6; and one other runner, Ailette, finished second. Boddam and Corlach brought off a 10 to 1 double.

The JOHN BULL code tips are not five or ten shilling wires, nor are readers requested to forward the odds to £1 in the event of a selection winning. They are sent out free of charge and appear in the daily papers given in the code on the opposite page.

Topsy-Turvy Form.

What is form? If you look at the performances of some of this season's young hurdlers you will be tied into knots before you can answer the question. I agree with the race-goers who tell me that Golden is the best three-year-old so far seen out, but in his first race over the sticks the colt was among the also-rans behind Red Cyder. A few days later Corlach and Red Cyder were easily beaten by Gyroscope. Following this race Golden trounced a huge field with Gyroscope and Corlach nowhere. It needs a Solomon to unravel the tangle, but personally I believe that Red Cyder was off colour when beaten by Gyroscope. In order to test my theory, I shall give Hartigan's filly one more chance.

Another Six to Follow.

A number of readers have asked me to increase my six jumpers to follow to twelve. This is not a very difficult matter as I have already spotted several useful customers. Not one of the six is a top-notcher, but they will all be "placed" to win.

White Park.—Two mile hurdle races.
Ammonal.—Two mile and a half 'chases.
Redbrae.—Three mile 'chases.
Lee Bridge.—Amateur event 'chases.
Middlethorpe.—Two mile 'chases.
Tullylost.—Two mile hurdle races.

I should give each of the above six three chances and stake for a win and a place.

The Strike.

Strikes are expensive as a rule,
And John Bull pays the bill, poor fool.
But if the bookies strike, ah well,
There'll be a diff'rent tale to tell!
A Bookies' Boycott! great sensation!
Think what that strike will save the nation!

By Son-in-Law—Mumtaz Mahal.

I understand that Mumty's first mate is to be Son-in-Law. In view of the Flying Wonder's speed and Son-in-Law's staying powers this is a very wise choice. Son-in-Law captured the Cesarewitch in 1915, and this season he headed the list of winning sires, his stock annexing thirty-three races, and stakes of £32,000. Straitlace, the best of his daughters, was responsible for over half of this huge sum.

Hogan Needs Armour.

Skull caps for jockeys are an excellent idea, but I doubt whether a suit of armour would protect young Hogan, who is again hors de combat with a broken collar-bone. Skyflier's tumble at Kempton brought down his mount, Wise Folly, together with a number of others. Hogan was the only jockey seriously injured. Last year misfortune dogged his footsteps. Early in the season he took a toss and broke an arm. On his return to the saddle he went to the head of winning jockeys and looked like remaining there until another bad spill smashed a collar-bone and put him out of action for several weeks. It is hard lines, as he is a splendid jockey.

Hogan, The Unlucky.

Probable National Entries—14 to 1!!!

The limit reached me this morning: "Dear Silver Ring, I have just received a list of the probable entries for the Grand National. It contains several joint favourites at 14 to 1. Have you another Master Robert up your sleeve?" If the *probable* entries were forty or four hundred to one I might risk a prophecy, but I am not picking needles out of haystacks yet awhile.

Those Wicked Jockeys.

JOHN BULL readers will probably recollect my notes on the subject of jockeys betting. One of the daily papers suggested that I should be hauled before the great Panjandrum for daring to make

THIS WEEK'S SELECTIONS

Plumpton, Wednesday.
WHITE, RONALD, ANT. MAGIC.
Carlisle, Thursday.
DARE ALL, JOHN WYSE.
Chelmsford, Thursday.
ROUSHAM, GRENHURST.
Lingfield, Friday.
WHITE PARK, ALCAZAR.
Lingfield, Saturday.
FORTISSIMO, HEAD MASTER.

Soccer Championship Still in the

SELECTIONS FOR DECEMBER 13.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION I.
HOME WINNERS.
*Arsenal, *Aston Villa, *Huddersfield,
AWAY WINNERS — Bolton W., *Spurs.
DRAWS.
*Blackburn v. Cardiff, *Bury v. W. Bromwich, Sheffield U. v. Everton, W. Ham v. Sunderland.

THE LEAGUE—DIVISION II.
HOME WINNERS.
*Blackpool, *Derby C., *Middlesbro, Portsmouth, *Wolves.
AWAY WINNERS.
*Chelsea, Leicester C., *Manchester
DRAWS.
*Fulham v. Palace, *Hull v. Wednesday, *S. Shields v. Stoke.

DIVISION III (Southern). HOME WINNERS.
*Bristol R., Charlton, *Newport, *Northampton, Queen's P.R., *Southend,
AWAY WINNER ... *Swindon.
DRAWS — *Exeter v. Brighton.

DIVISION III (Northern). HOME WINNERS.
Barrow, *Crewe A., *Halifax, *Lincoln, *Nelson, *Southport, *Wigan.
AWAY WINNERS—*Darlington, Rochdale.
DRAWS.—*Ashington v. Wrexham, *Walsall v. N. Brighton.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.
HOME WINNERS.
Aberdeen, Celtic, *Cowdenbeath, *Hibernians, Kilmarnock, Partick T.
AWAY WINNER.—Airdrieonians.
DRAWS.—*Motherwell v. Hearts,

(For coupon purposes nap selections are marked with an asterisk.)

IT will be a momentous week-end for several of the Third Division clubs and one or two of the Second Division ones who have arrived at the sixth qualifying round of the English Cup and who have to win but another tie to get into the first round of the competition proper.

But as some of them are drawn together, somebody is going to miss that chance of at least one good Cup gate which means so much to clubs with not only a limited income but a falling one.

Play Up, Darlington!

While I have no personal interest in the tie at Reading, I must say that I hope to see Darlington successful there. No club in any important league in either England or Scotland has such a fine record this season, and yet Darlington, who so to speak have only to stand up to gain promotion to Division II, are not getting the support which means the removal of financial worry.

When the smaller clubs are placed like this there is only one sequel and that is the transfer of one or two players who make all the difference to a side.

Some of the more wealthy clubs have closely been watching the Darlington players, so I hope the side make further progress in the Cup and ward off the otherwise inevitable transfers.

Congratulations to the amateur clubs in their Cup struggles against the pros., and I must say I should like to see St. Albans win their away tie at West Hartlepool, if only for the reason that three or four of their best players have repeatedly turned a deaf ear to offers to become professionals. Such a talented and enthusiastic band of amateurs ought to have the sympathy of everybody.

Gallant Amateurs.

I hear, by the way, that the Corinthians are going to make a bold bid for the national trophy this season. Their best available eleven is as good as any of the pro. teams so far as skill goes, and I only hope the best men will not only be at liberty to play but are also able to get into the necessary condition.

It is only because they stay the course better that the paid beat the unpaid as often they do.

League Prospects.

It would be something out of the ordinary were six or seven of the top clubs in the First League all to win their matches on Saturday. As I have indicated elsewhere, home clubs have not

the Sticks

First Mate — Those Wicked Jockeys

such a serious allegation. However, I am still alive and I am rather interested in the outcome of the Jockey Club's enquiry into the subject. Jockeys would not be human if they never had a little flutter.

The "Companion" for Sportsmen.

The Editor of the *Sporting Life and Sportsman* has just sent me a copy of *The Sporting Life Companion for* 1925, and, personally, I think it is better than ever.

It contains a mass of general information, facts and records—cleverly alphabetically arranged—appertaining to every popular sport.

Of course, a large section is devoted to the Turf. Carefully compiled statistics, complete official lists of Flat Racing and Steeplechase Fixtures, and tables showing the winners of every big event this century, make the little waistcoat pocket-book a real companion for the sportsman.

The price remains the same, *i.e.* 6d., and if you take my advice you will get a copy. It is on sale at all Newsagents, or can be obtained from the Publisher, "*Sporting Life and Sportsman*," 27, St. Bride Street, London, E.C.4, postfree 7½d.

PADDOCK PARS.

"Mr. A." has no horses in training in this country at the present time, but he captured a race or two in Ireland with Sir Launcelot in 1919.

* * *

F. B. Rees has ridden ninety winners since January 1. This is a record number for jumping, but he hopes to top the hundred.

* *

The "Gimcrack" winner suggested in his speech that Monday racing should be stopped and parades abolished. He also wished that punters would realise that the turf is not a road to fortune. Well, well, well!

JUMPERS TO FOLLOW.

Vesington King.—A small fortune was lost when this Irish importation failed to beat Golden at Kempton. Joe Canty crossed St. George's Channel specially to ride, and the colt was backed down from tens to twos. The losses will be recovered next time out.

Kinnaird.—It is not often that George Duller is on a ten to one chance, but this was the returned price of Kinnaird for the Staines Hurdle Handicap. The son of Corcyra was short-headed by the useful Peter Pax, but as the horses flashed past the post I thought Duller had retained the lead. You can enter three stars against Kinnaird's name as he is a certain winner soon.

Le Cellier.—I coded Le Cellier for the Middlesex 'Chase, but did not expect five to one. These pleasant little surprises come along occasionally. Le Cellier is a splendid steeplechaser and should be backed until he loses.

Gyroscope.—Mr. Setlee's useful three-year-old finished down the course at Newbury, but it is not generally known that he ruined his chance by hitting a swinging hurdle. Gyroscope is a good each way bet every time he runs.

Reading.—Woodman has only a small string, but he knows how to turn them out. Reading, a six-year-old mare, is one of his money-spinners, and as she is always cleverly "placed" she will continue to win two-mile hurdle races. At Newbury Reading won, pulling up, by twelve lengths.

Lee Bridge.—I tipped Reahills to win the Amateur's Handicap 'Chase at Kempton, and he did so at the nice price of fives. If the race were to be re-run, and the jockeys reversed, I should go outright for Lee Bridge. Make a note of him for his next engagement.

SILVER RING.

"JOHN BULL'S" CODE.

Two coded selections will be given daily in the following papers:—

Sporting Life and Sportsman, *Sporting Chronicle*, *Sporting Pink*, *Western Mail*, *Glasgow Noon Record*, *Birmingham Mail*, *Irish Independent*.

A X E Q R P U L O G J N K I

2 W V S C M 8 Y B H T Z F D

How to read the code:—In place of the letters or figures advertised in the daily papers read those above or below the line, as the case may be. T 2 P V Q M D H H would read JAMES PIGG.

This code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from December 10 to 16.

Balance

Critical games this week-end for League clubs.

done all they should have done this season, and while Notts County, Sunderland, West Bromwich, Bolton and Birmingham are all to play on their own pitch, I should not care to take the lot as five home winners.

Huddersfield have got a little more than I think they can do to win at Cardiff, as the City have shown signs of improvement lately and I think the champions will be content with a draw.

But the Villa, who by force of circumstance luckily have found a pair of backs as good as their regular ones, ought to get both points at Preston against the luckless North End.

Throw-ins.

I am glad to see that Bristol City are having a real try to get into Division II. Funny that they should do better without Fairclough than with him, especially as he has "made" the Derby County forward line.

There is no "big" game in the Scottish League this week-end. Rangers and Airdrieonians will probably win, and Celtic and Hibernians may draw.

Judging from the poor crowds at the northern section matches of the Division III, it is a wonder how some of the clubs are carrying on.

Cardiff City and Gill have fallen out, so here's a class inside forward going at a price probably round about £200.

It is not remarkable that the Spurs have done so well since I wrote that some teams would not let them play football None of the bruisers has been among their recent opponents.

We are getting on. A League player has just been fined for swearing at a spectator. But some spectators could only be appropriately dealt with by being hit with an axe.

There's going to be some funny football if the latest changes in the offside rule are carried. Nobody will miss the opening matches under the new conditions.

The F.A. selection committee are still looking for a real international centre-half. The best that I know of are Seddon and Claude Ashton.

WEEK-END COUPS.

7 HOME.—Bolton, W. Bromwich, Manchester U., Bristol C., Falkirk, Rangers, Airdrieonians.

5 HOME.—Manchester U., Southampton, Bristol C., Falkirk, Rangers.

3 AWAY.—Aston Villa, Watford, Raith R.

3 DRAWS.—Wednesday v. Portsmouth, Brighton v. Swansea, 3rd Lanark v. Hibernians.

3 HOME, 2 AWAY.—Manchester U., Rangers, Airdrieonians, Derby C., Watford.

1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Rangers, Watford, Leeds v. Manchester C.

¶ In this country thousands of children are without proper food and shelter. Some are orphaned and friendless, others are neglected and ill-treated, and all of them are more or less "on the doorstep."

¶ During the year, **736** of these children have been received through the ever open door of the National Children's Home and Orphanage to the warmth and welcome of its hospitable firesides.

¶ There are now **104** urgent cases gathered within the last few weeks, and for every one of them we mean to find a home before Christmas.

¶ Will you help by sending **Five Guineas** to enable us to take at once one more from this list, and so ensure for him a Happy Christmas and a Brighter New Year?

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME AND ORPHANAGE
(Founded by Dr. Stephenson) 29 Branches 4,000 Children
Principal: Rev. W. HODSON SMITH.
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HENRY'S CALCINED MAGNESIA.

Your Doctor will tell you how beneficial this wonderful old remedy is in cases of Indigestion, Heartburn, Acidity, Biliousness, Rheumatism, etc. As an aperient, where there is extreme delicacy, it has no equal.

For Children's ailments, from early infancy it is the safest remedy known.

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(Acts like a charm.) 1/6 & 2/9. Post Free.

CARRERAS, LIMITED.

After writing off all charges, including advertising, depreciations, directors' remunerations, etc., the accounts for the year ended 31st October, 1924, show an available balance of £619,400. The Directors recommend a final Dividend at the rate of 50 per cent. per annum, free of Income Tax for the half year, making 40 per cent. free of tax for the year and the payment of a bonus Dividend of 2/- per Ordinary Share, free of Tax.
£100,000 has been placed to Reserve for Taxes, £15,000 to General Reserve, £11,910 to the Employees Superannuation Fund, Preference Share Dividends absorb £20,000 and the balance carried forward is £351,700.

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ANOTHER REMARKABLE TESTIMONY.

Mrs. Foster, of 25, William Road, Sutton, Surrey, writes:—

I wish to say how pleased I am with "GALLOWAY'S" COUGH SYRUP. My little boy had whooping cough, which left him with a very bad cough, and although we tried with practically every known remedy, he could not shake it off. We were advised to try "GALLOWAY'S" COUGH SYRUP, and much to our relief this quickly cured him.

It is pleasant to take, and I am sure that all children like it and will take "GALLOWAY'S" without any difficulty.

Every dose of "Galloway's" Cough Syrup is a sure step to speedy recovery, but see that it is "Galloway's."

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It touches the tickle!

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Lozs., 1/3, and 3/-

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THE ONE SAFE REMEDY

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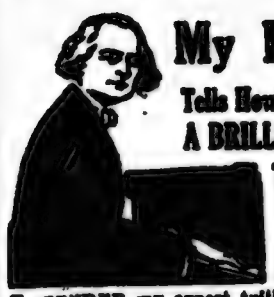

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Mr. H. BECKER, 21, Bristol House, Malvern Street, London, N.8.1.

Our Letter Parliament

No Secret Societies!

Our Readers Air their Views on This and Other Subjects

Individual Liberty.

The thanks of all your readers are due to A. G. G. for his outspoken article on Red Shirts and Black Shirts. We want no secret societies of any kind. They breed suspicion and discontent, and that way lies revolution and rebellion. Now that women also have the vote, there is no need for either sex to form secret societies—all disagreements and opinions can be expressed openly through Parliament. Is the liberty of the individual o be taken from the Briton?—*Mrs H.*

Ku Klux Klan.

I am delighted to notice the line you take regarding the British Fascisti and the Communists. We have no need for secret societies in Britain—either Black or Red. Our system of government gets us the reforms we want by constitutional means and not by secret force. As one who has seen some of the disgraceful affairs of the white-shirted Ku Klux Klan of America, I can say that if Britain allows this kind of thing to grow we shall lose our individual liberty.—*Pat.*

Country is Sound.

However noble the aims of the British Fascisti, there is absolutely no need for such an organisation. The country is sound; our politics are cleaner than any other country's in the world, and the Mother of Parliaments sets a wonderful example of good government. It is not by hole-in-the-corner societies that things are done, but by the will of the people, who refuse to be coerced either by black shirts, red shirts or night shirts. Get rid of all these secret organisations in our midst.—*Capt. H. F. L.*

Fade Away.

I agree with A. G. G. that there is no room for Trotskyism in this country, and although the British Fascisti is regarded rather with amusement than with the awe they expect, their activities may have unpleasant results. Organisations of this kind are sadly out of keeping at this time, for the people, having had a hearty dose of strife within the last ten years, are anxious for peace and social development. So let General Blakeney and his black-shirted followers fade quickly out of our sight.—"*Anti-Fascisti.*"

Firebrand Fever.

Very true, Mr. A. G. Gardiner. Britain has no use either for Red Shirts or Black, nor has it any patience with hot heads of any description. Nevertheless, I feel that we should not regard their demonstrations too lightly. The Firebrand Fever spreads all too quickly, and although the average level-headed Briton is inoculated against it, there are thousands who are feeble-minded enough to catch this fever and perish through it. Rather than let any type of firebrand "have his day out in Trafalgar Square," I would suggest that he should be firmly suppressed.—*Geo. Binks, Plymouth.*

Their Pledge.

A. G. G. contends that the Fascist is an imbecile, a simpleton and a black-shirted hooligan. All this applies to the ex-Service men who form the greater proportion of the British Fascisti. The British Fascist is pledged to uphold His Most Gracious Majesty King George V, his heirs and successors, the established constitution of Great Britain, and the British Empire. He undertakes to render every service in his power to the Fascisti in their struggle against all treacherous and revolutionary movements now working for the destruction of the Throne and the Empire.—*J. H. L.*

Brief to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited; 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

The Poor Rich.

The middle-class, as you say, are hard hit. Take my own case. I am a rural schoolmaster with a yearly salary little above that of a city scavenger. Yet how much more are my expenses! Church whist drives, and socials, subscriptions to the local hospital and sports clubs and other similar demands on my pocket are made with the most callous effrontery. My family are expected to live in good style. Yet if I'm sick my pay goes on for one month, then stops. I get no benefits from Health Insurance.—*Dominie, Rutland.*

Compulsory Insurance.

"A Gentleman with a Duster" asks if the worker gets his money's worth from his trade union. It would seem more to the point if we asked ourselves whether we get out money's worth when we pay in to the National Health Insurance every week. Quite 50 per cent. of the people who subscribe to this forced insurance never avail themselves of the "benefits" of a State doctor. Insurance should be optional—not compulsory. If a man prefers to have his private doctor, he should not be forced to pay fees to his neighbour's doctor as well.—*P. S., London.*

How Bolshies are Made.

One of your contributors suggests obtaining a symposium of women's ideas relating to housing contrivances. What we in Scotland want more than anything are houses, plain simple houses, without frills, and plenty of them! Why should heavy expenditure on such a vital matter be a deterrent to the authorities when the very life-blood and sanity of the people depend on prompt action? No one who has seen the over-crowded one-roomed hovels of Glasgow and Dundee can doubt that those are the disease-ridden wombs which give birth to Communistic lunacy.—*Jampot, Perth Road, Dundee.*

Printers' Pie

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie.")

"MANCHESTER GUARDIAN":—"I cannot agree in regard to the adoption of the suggested bye-law to compel all motor vehicles to stop on the APPROACH of a STATIONARY tramcar."

"LIVERPOOL WEEKLY POST":—"He did not SEE that a truck had been launched down the incline, for he was slightly DEAF."

"SMART NOVELS":—"Sara Grantley clenched her TWO HANDS together, pressed them against her lips and BEAT HERSELF on the breast."

"MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS" (advert.):—"Junior Clerk wanted immediately, about 16 years; must be smart and accurate at figures; one with LITTLE EXPERIENCE OF WAGES preferred."

"GLASGOW EVENING NEWS":—"The scheme in view is one promoted by the sheepowners of New Zealand, who have formed a FEUD as a token of their admiration."

Old Age Pensions.

It is stated by many prominent men that by reducing the age of Old Age Pensions to sixty it will find many people work. One thing seems to be overlooked, however, we must not forget that the pension is for the individual only who attains the stipulated age. As a rule a man marries a woman much younger than himself, therefore he is still supposed to support her although the pension is only for himself. Should not the pension be sufficient for both?—*A. S., Blackburn.*

Sunday Scoops.

Can it be wondered at that weaker-minded girls and women try to imitate the heroine of the trashy fiction in vogue to-day? Not only has the "Shiek" stuff dominated the minds of these girls, but we find that if a woman by lack of morals has figured ingloriously in the law courts, her life story is eagerly seized by the newspapers and thrust in the faces of the general public. I am sure the average man or woman wants something better to read in the Sunday newspapers than the life stories of people whose lack of morals are their only means of obtaining prominence.—*A. P., Manchester.*

Short Shrift for Chinks.

It was with great interest that I read your article on the Chinese menace. In 1911 I was in a place called Zebu, in the Philippine Islands, where the "Chinks" were all shopkeepers and evidently gave the authorities trouble. They received a stern warning. No doubt they ignored that the same as they do here, but not long afterwards a warning was given that all "Chinks" must be ready to sail on board a transport for China in twenty-four hours, and they were taken by force to the ship and only given time to lock up their shops. That's what they got for trying to fool the Yanks.—*G. Blunden, South Shields.*

Shun Love.

Your reader, Malcolm Baillie, stated that sexual intercourse is, "according to Christian teaching, only permissible when there is a deliberate intention of bringing children into the world." I should be interested if he would quote his authority. To my knowledge the Bible says in regard to marriage: "They twain shall be of one flesh," and gives no pronouncement on whether sex intercourse should be for purposes of procreation only. I do not see what Mr. Baillie means when he says that young couples should not live together. Is he suggesting that the institution of marriage is wrong?—*P. N. C., Manchester.*

Painless Childbirth.

For writing an article in JOHN BULL some time ago, Dr. Haydn Brown has been struck off the Medical Register for "unprofessional conduct." If the conclusions at which he arrived were scientifically based, and undoubtedly they were, he was doing humanity a public service. To penalise Dr. Brown, who was seeking not his own ends, but writing in the interests of humanity, is the act of a fossilised and autocratic body which must be blind to the fact that we are living in the age of daily discovery and not in the age of "leeches" and "simples." The whole question of the relation of medical men to the Press should be governed by modern needs and thought.—*Stan. J. Coats, Ilfracombe.*

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"Aladdin gives me daylight at night"

"Never in my experience have I used any light of any sort whatsoever that can equal the Aladdin. I first used an Aladdin Incandescent Paraffin Lamp in a portable cottage in Kent. I was so delighted with its simplicity and convenience that although I have gas at home, I have put an Aladdin in my study.

It pays for itself.

"For the steady soft bright light I now get—so different to the dinginess of gas—I pay so little that I consider that the Aladdin has paid for itself already in fuel saved."

A triumph of science.

As a matter of fact the Aladdin, by a special invention that has been hailed as a triumph of Science, is made to produce an *incandescent light* from common paraffin. It burns a mixture of 94% air and 6% oil, and gives an intense, yet soft, light that fills the room for 8½ hours on one pint of oil, or less than a farthing an hour.

It can't explode.

The Aladdin is as easy to light as a candle and absolutely safe. It has been dropped, alight, from the table to the floor. It went out. It has been tipped on one side so that the oil would run out . . . and then surrounded by wood-wool, which was set on fire. There was not the slightest sign of explosion.

Send for an Aladdin on 10 DAYS' FREE TRIAL

Seeing the Aladdin, and using it—is believing in it. The light it gives compared to the light you have now will be a revelation to you. There are no inconveniences, no obligations. Your Aladdin is brought to your door—you use it for ten days—and then if you don't want it, away it goes—but not often. Send a postcard to-day.

Aladdin

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Sore throat, irritating night cough, winter Bronchitis. — What is your trouble?

Anyway, VENO'S will give relief. Splendid for children. Perfectly safe, and they like it!

Price 1/3, Family Size 3/- All Chemists.

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Rub away Rheumatism

The first twinge of rheumatic pain may be the beginning of a crippling attack.
Rub well at once with Keen's Mustard Ointment.
A few minutes' rubbing gives quick relief. A glowing warmth soothes the affected part and draws out the pain.
Use it also for all forms of stiffness and muscular strain.

A small jar lasts for months.

Keen's Mustard Ointment

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CURZON BROS., LTD., the famous London Tailors and Outfitters, have made wholesale reductions in all of these lines to demonstrate the extraordinary value they offer. These items are really useful, serviceable and sensible gifts which men thoroughly appreciate. They are not job or sale line goods but are made specially this season of first rate materials and are fully guaranteed. If you have the slightest dissatisfaction with any item purchased, we will refund your money in full. Orders dispatched within thirty hours of receipt. Cut out this advertisement for future reference. Call at once at any of our Depots or post your order early, to Head Branch mentioned below.

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No. 135. Made of splendid quality yarn perfectly cut, without sleeves. Two pockets, wool back, in Putty, Camel, Lemon, Mole, Grey and Heather. 34 ins. to 40 ins. chest. Postage 6d. **6/6**

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PYJAMAS.

No. 282. Warm Wincyette Pyjamas splendidly made, perfectly cut, roomy and comfortable. With pearl buttons and breast pocket. In Blue, Helio and Pink stripes on White ground. Usually sold at 7/11. Special Xmas Offer **5/11** Postage 6d.

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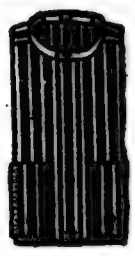
Real wool cosy lining, detached in a few seconds when desired.

This wonderful Curzon invention combines a warm winter Overcoat with a tempest proof Trench Coat. The wool fleecy lining inside is detached in a few moments, and the garment is then worn as the finest rain resister in the world. Smartly cut perfectly finished, they are marvellous value. Note these four points. 1. The "Cebedene" is lined with smart check rubber, thoroughly proofed. 2. The shoulder seams and sleeves are reinforced with double rubber solution so that they cannot let in water. 3. It is tempest proof as well as rain proof and resists everything wet. 4. Guaranteed for ever. If it lets in water or dampness you get a "Cebedene" Overcoat for nothing. All men's sizes in Navy or Fawn. **25/6** Postage 1/- extra.

For boys in Navy or Fawn. **21/6** Postage 1/- extra.

Give chest measurement.

No. 524. Smart XMAS SHIRTS



Usually priced at 8/6. Hard-wearing but soft flannel finish shirt in neat stripe designs, fast colours, with cuffs to button or link. Thousands already in use. Our amazing price (Postage 6d.) **4/11**

4 for 20/- Post paid.

The HEVITWILL. Reduced from 8/11. Strong-wearing shirt of Cream heavy Twill with neat Black or Coloured Stripes. A particularly smart corded shirt for all occasions, including soft collar to match. All sizes Each Post 6d. **6/11**

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6 for 3/-

Postage 3d.

Genuine "Luvisca" soft collars, as illustrated. Cost elsewhere 10½d. We have specially reduced them for Xmas shoppers to each **6½D.**

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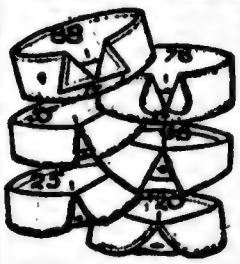
"Curzonia" Four-fold COLLARS.



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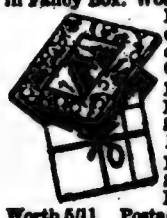

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No. 13. Fancy Box containing SIX Gent.'s Full Size Linen Finish Hemstitched HANDKERCHIEFS. 3/6 per box. Postage 6d.

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No. 21. A pair of Artificial Silk SOCKS with TIE to match in fancy presentation box. Worth 6/11. A most acceptable gift, 5/- Postage 6d.

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No. 24. Fancy Box containing a Handsome Artificial Silk SCARF, fancy striped or all White. Usual cost 10/6. Postage 6d. 7/6.

No. 25. Presentation Boxes of HANDKERCHIEFS as illustrated, containing 1 dozen Fine Quality Hemstitched Handkerchiefs. 21 ins. x 21 ins., 1½ in. Hem. Usual cost 12/11. Postage 6d. 7/6.

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No 31. A pair of Gent.'s CAPE GLOVES, Lined wool, fur wrists, dome fasteners. Complete in box. Usual cost 14/11. Postage 4d. 12/6.

No. 32. A Gent's Super Quality Fancy Knitted All-wool PULL-OVER in box. Usual cost 19/11. 12/6. Postage 6d.

GIFTS at 2/9

No. 4. A full size Black Bristle CLOTHES BRUSH with long handle complete oak finish rack, with hooks, etc. Exactly as illustrated, worth 5/6. A real bargain. Each 2/9. Postage 2d.

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No. 15. A Fancy Box containing a pair of splendid quality elastic BRACES and Sock Suspenders to match, as illustrated. Worth 6/11. Postage 6d. 4/6.

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No. 22. A handsome Presentation Leatherette Box containing half dozen Pure Irish Linen Hemstitched HANDKERCHIEFS. 17½ ins. x 17½ ins. 1 in. hem. Worth 9/-. 6/11 per box. Postage 6d.

No. 23. A Fancy Box containing a pair of Gent.'s Tan Leather (Nappa) GLOVES. Usually sold at 8/11. Post 4d. 6/11. State size.

GIFTS at 10/6

No. 26. A Pair of Gent's Cape (leather) GLOVES, lined wool, dome fasteners. Complete in fancy box 10/6. Postage 4d.

No. 29. A Gent's Fancy Knitted Wool PULLOVER in box. Worth 15/6. Postage 4d. 10/6.

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Radio Talks.

Crystal Users' Wider Range

by MICHAEL EGAN

WIDESPREAD interest has been evoked, both at home and on the Continent, by the announcement that the experimental transmissions from 5XX, the high-power wireless station at Chelmsford, will henceforth constitute a permanent feature of British broadcasting. The station will be moved to Daventry, Northampton, in the New Year, from which central position it will be able to "feed" a much larger British area than formerly.

The normal distance over which this station can be received on a crystal set, in conjunction with a good aerial, is 100 miles. In certain areas, where local conditions are not so good as they might be, the range will be slightly less, whilst in others it may be considerably more. Amateurs who reside on the fringe of the 100-mile range will, therefore, be well advised to "wait and hear" before finally deciding to purchase any new items of equipment for the purpose of picking up this station.

The entry of 5XX into the list of permanent broadcasting stations has a particular interest for the many thousands of amateurs who listen-in nightly beside the salt, sea waves to the nearest broadcasting station. The problem of eliminating interference from ships has always been the chief problem of amateurs who live near the coast.

THIS is due to the fact that an aerial that is tuned to broadcast waves is also *approximately* tuned to ships' waves, because there is not really a great deal of difference between the length of these waves. An aerial that is tuned to the long waves sent out by 5XX, however, should be quite free from interference from ships. (The standard ships' wave is 600 metres, whilst the wave-length of 5XX is 1,600 metres.)

In the majority of cases the reception of 5XX from positions near the coast will entail the use of at least one valve if satisfactory results are to be obtained. Amateurs who already possess crystal sets for the purpose of receiving the nearest broadcast station should add a high-frequency amplifying valve. In extreme cases two high-frequency valves may be required. Low-frequency valves will be of no avail in conjunction with a crystal set if the latter fails to yield signals by itself.

IN every case, of course, the tuning of an amateur aerial to 5XX will involve the use of an extra tuning coil. Special coils for this purpose—and, incidentally, special high-frequency amplifying units, readily adaptable to existing sets of every kind—have been produced by most of the well-known manufacturers, and should be obtainable through local retailers.

Apart altogether from the freedom from interference which it offers to seaside listeners-in, it should be remembered that 5XX may provide "alternative" programmes which are quite distinctive in character from those transmitted from the other broadcast stations. It therefore behoves all listeners-in who wish to extend their range of selection of broadcast items to equip themselves with the means necessary for the reception of these programmes.

* * * *

Our Contributor will be pleased to answer readers' queries on wireless reception. Address him c/o John Bull, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2.

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"ELLA" TUNING COILS.
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Compact. Efficient. Tuned
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The Ideal Xmas Gift is a complete set of Component Parts for Home Construction.

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is all you pay for a superbly made No. 32A Mead Gramophone with solid oak case, 22-inch richly coloured horn, large steel motor and unusually loud Tone-d Reproducer. Sent (with 40 tunes) carriage paid on 10 DAYS' FREE TRIAL. Mahogany Cabinet Models and Table Grands at very low prices. Write for big art catalogue.

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John Bull's Letter Bag

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious, and he wants you to see it in this light. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note and take his leave with a smile. Serious questions are handled by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service. See note at top of last column this page.

M. I. (Leeds).—"Truth is a mighty thing." But it's not very prevalent.

F. R. (Acton).—"Our cook has worked for lots of families round here." What a well-informed woman your wife must be.

L. C. (King's Cross).—"I know a parson with a keen sense of humour." Some day he may be an arch bishop.

R. W. (Thundersley).—"The difference between tinned food and fresh food is vital." And vitamin.

L. A. (Wandsworth).—"Every time I hear the postman knock I get a thrill." You're lucky. Many a man gets a bill.

F. G. (Vauxhall).—"A bachelor is harried until he gives in and gets married." All right, don't make a song about it.

F. P. (Norbiton).—"My ambition is to become a statesman." It's about the only profession which is not overcrowded.

C. C. (Dudley).—"He came raving at me smelling strong of whisky." Reeking his vengeance, in fact.

S. N. (Edgbaston).—"Love can work miracles." Seems so; it has made our office-boy wash his neck.

P. C. (Oxford).—"Water is a wholesome drink." What's more it blends so beautifully.

R. P. (Rochester).—"How can I keep my hands clean doing housework all day?" The answer's a lemon.

C. E. (Leek).—"What does the phrase 'The Balance of Power' mean?" A bank balance, as a rule.

"TORY" (W.1).—"What Conservatives stand for is stability." In some cases, however, we should say it's debility.

F. Y. (Edmonton).—"I saw the All Blacks play on Saturday." We hear they are resuming their tour, greatly cheered.

F. J. (Enfield).—"It is not sufficient for the Government to sit tight." We are absolutely certain that such a disgraceful state of affairs will never come to pass.

P. D. (Bentham).—"And, after all, money doesn't make a man." But that's no reason why a man shouldn't make money.

L. Y. (Hythe).—"I feel I could go on writing like this for ever." Oh, no, you're bound to learn sense as you grow older.

P. G. K. (South Shields).—"My son is always knocking down valuable things in the house." He'll probably grow up to be an auctioneer.

G. A. V. (Kentish Town).—"A gramophone which repeats 'Engaged, engaged' is being tested at the Paris telephone exchanges." We doubt if this would find favour with the London operator as she would have to lay aside her knitting and re-wind the machine.

M. E. (Smethwick).—"What is the Woman's Movement?" Her tongue.

B. N. (Chatham).—"I like to take my time." Well, please don't take ours.

C. K. (Hereford).—"Does your paper boast of an office boy?" No, it occasionally apologises for one.

R. R. (Battersea).—"America seems to be a very solemn nation." She's got a good deal of dry humour.

N. D. (Perth).—"Work kills nobody." Rather not: it's the worry at having to work that's the nasty snag.

O. V. (Exeter).—"I submit this poem to you as a compliment." And we return the compliment.

W. B. (Blackburn).—"You can always judge a man by the company he keeps." And by the cigars he gives away.

C. C. (Glasgow).—"I can nearly always tell what the people I meet are thinking of me." How very unpleasant for you.

"ECONOMIST" (Romsey).—"Wealth is merely an illusion." But we notice that it is usually money that does the trick.

G. DE M.-L. (W.1).—"Hunting is losing its place in social life." And progress is replacing stag-nation.

T. T. (Canterbury).—"There's a wonderful statue on the house they're building opposite me." Sure it isn't the bricklayer?

S. M. (Buxton).—"My husband makes himself very useful in the house." Well, we didn't suppose you married him for an ornament.

G. R. (Hull).—"Modern young women don't get on by the excessive use of paint and powder." They don't "get off" either.

E. E. (Gorton).—"It's weary waiting for one's ship to come home." And when it does come it will probably be a hardship.

E. W. (Crewe).—"Ought I to ask my fiancee what she'd like as a Xmas present?" It would be unwise: you probably can't afford anything half as expensive as that.

L. E. (Cardiff).—"What is a tragedy?" A funny story told twice to the same man.

L. T. L. (Chadwell).—"A woman should get a man's wages." She generally does.

R. L. (Nuneaton).—"Everything comes to him who waits in the long run." Unless someone else gets it first.

H. W. (Bedford).—"He wrote and called me a bounder." Why didn't you skip his letter?

P. L. C. (Battle).—"I pride myself that I'm never behind time." Do you wear your watch in your hip pocket?

J. J. (Mortlake).—"Do our girls get their fresh complexions from the climate?" No; the chemist.

E. A. (Jarrow).—"The world's coal supply will last long after my decease." Don't be so pessimistic about your future.

WM. L. (Salford).—"My health is my only capital." Then you, like others, should avoid over-drafts.

W. W. (Horsham).—"I think there should be a tax on all bachelors." We don't believe the country is in favour of taxing raw material.

N. M. (Slough).—"Isn't it extraordinary how money keeps going?" Yes, and how we have to keep going to make more when it has gone!

R. D. (Dalston).—"Some people grow coarse upon women and wine." The coarseness, of course, often ends with a fine.

L. M. (Bradford).—"I would rather go to the club and play cards than go to the Pictures." Still, it is not everybody who prefers to hold his own hand.

F. H. (Poplar).—"You don't seem to understand the significance of the Red Flag." It's meant one thing on the railways for years!

K. F. (Swansea).—"Eggs should be marked with the date on which they are laid to prevent them being mixed with preserved eggs." We agree that young eggs should be protected in every possible way. Later, of course, they can speak for themselves.

1/ PACKET *of real glossy photographs of famous film stars* FREE!

A Special Offer to "John Bull" Readers who enter for the Great £500 Film Star Popularity Contest now running in the Christmas "Picturegoer"—The Movie Magazine de Luxe—One Shilling.

THIS voucher will bring you absolutely free by return of post a 1/- Packet of real, glossy, photographs of

Rudolph Valentino
Norma Talmadge
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Alice Terry

Cut it out and attach it to the Free Voting Coupon for the Great £500 Film Star Popularity Contest which appears in the Christmas "Picturegoer," now on sale, One Shilling. Your opinion in this simple and fascinating competition may win you the first prize of £250, or one of the many other huge cash prizes that are being offered.

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J.B.

1/- packet of real photographs FREE.

GET a copy of the Christmas "Picturegoer" to-day. Enter for the great £500 Film Star Popularity Contest on the FREE VOTING COUPON which you will find on page 10 of the Christmas "Picturegoer." Post your Voting Coupon, together with this Voucher, to the "Picturegoer." As a special Free Gift you will be sent, by return of post, in exchange for this Voucher, a genuine 1/- packet of superb, real glossy photographs (postcard size) of Rudolph Valentino, Norma Talmadge, Ramon Novarro and Alice Terry, in addition you may win a huge Cash Prize.

N.B.—This Voucher does not qualify you for a free 1/- packet of photographs unless it is accompanied by the Free Voting Coupon from the Christmas "Picturegoer."

Available until December 20, 1924.

FOR every witty reply to readers on this page there are a thousand sympathetic, helpful letters sent out to other readers by our Free Advice Service.

The Service deals with every variety of problem, worry, and question. It is open to all.

Whatever your difficulty, write to JOHN BULL about it, enclose a stamped addressed envelope, and a personal and confidential reply will be sent you.

We have sources of information that are open to no one else in the world; we have a wealth of experience that can help you in all your troubles; there is no other medium through which wrongs are righted so quickly.

That problem of yours? Write to JOHN BULL about it.

G. J. W. (Durham).—"Fair's fair." Sometimes it's dark at the roots.

W. A. F. (Farnborough).—"I have a car which won't go." A sort of oughtomobile?

F. A. D. (Windsor).—"What is class consciousness?" When you're sitting in a first with a third ticket.

F. I. (Wanstead).—"I have a craving for money but never have any." That's the long and the short of it.

H. S. (London, E.).—"He always sings in his bath." Perhaps the locked door gives him confidence.

T. M. (York).—"Something is preying on my mind." Never mind, it will soon die of starvation.

G. H. (Harrow).—"I feel better since I have given up eating meat." Full of beans, doubtless.

G. J. (Sevenoaks).—"I once saw a sea-serpent." Pre-war, we expect. They don't brew stuff like that now.

F. F. (Bexhill).—"The times are out of joint." The butcher isn't, but he wants such a big price for it.

WM. L. (Yeldham).—"My prospects are small." They will increase if your prospect is cheerful.

D. G. (London, E.).—"I changed my lodgings and the new landlady charged me 17s. 6d. as extras in the first week." You were a stranger and she took you in.

H. K. (Aldgate).—"We found it difficult to squeeze in a railway carriage." Was she shy? Or was it because there were no tunnels?

R. C. H. (Colchester).—"Last year my wife gave me a mangle for my Christmas present." Win a *Bullets* prize this week and retaliate with a trouser-press.

F. K. A. (Sheffield).—"Should women teachers be bobbed?" The average small boy doesn't care as long as they don't use switches.

H. G. (Lambeth).—"My butcher charged me more for New Zealand lamb because he said it came such a long way." That's too far-fetched.

J. D. L. (Bayswater).—"There are plenty of fried fish shops in London." Oh, yes. You've only got to follow your nose.

F. A. E. (Hermitage).—"I hope you see my point." Either you forgot to enclose it, or else you believe we can work miracles.

G. G. P. (Downton).—"A private income gives one a good start in life." In the hands of an idler it may prove a serious handicap.

T. L. (Exeter).—"Don't you think it is wrong that eggs which were being sold for a penny each last March are now fourpence." If they are the same eggs, yes!

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

A FAIR AND HONEST OFFER.

No Benefit—No Pay.

FULL MONTH'S SUPPLY FOR FAIR TRIAL.

Readers of JOHN BULL should take advantage without delay of our liberal offer to send a month's supply of the natural Vitaliser, "Vitæ-Ore," for free trial. Thousands have already experienced its marvellous effects—the new vital energy which it gives, its power of renewing the health and vigour of all.

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Vitæ-Ore has attracted attention by the way that it has given new life and virility to thousands of languid, anxious and exhausted men. It has restored grace and healthy charm to thousands of tired, weary, careworn women, and to girls whose development to womanly life has been delayed. The vital forces are powerfully and noticeably increased by Vitæ-Ore. What is the result? In the office, the factory, at social gatherings, at work, and in hours of leisure people are telling each other how much Vitæ-Ore has done for them that no ordinary medicine could do.

All who wish to share in this wonderful benefit should write at once for a month's supply.

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Vitæ-Ore is not a patent medicine. The British Government recognises this by exempting it from stamp duty.

Vitæ-Ore is the residue of a natural healing spring, found in the desert by Prof. Noel, a famous geologist, and tested and approved by medical men of the highest standing.

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The "Lancet," the most important medical journal in the world, which would never give the authority of its world-famous columns to anything without the best scientific basis, published this statement:—

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Vitæ-Ore is perfectly harmless and free from the slightest ill-effects. Fill up the coupon at once. Do not delay. Receive the benefit NOW.

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Dissolved in water Vitæ-Ore not only gives new health and tonic effect through its vitalising power, but has directly beneficial action upon many stubborn diseases, and has produced numberless cures in cases of

Nervous Weakness	Rheumatism and
Debility	all "run-down"
Dyspepsia	conditions re-
Neurasthenia	sulting from
Neuritis	Stomach, Liver,
Anæmia	and Kidney
	Weakness.

It is a powerful nerve and spinal tonic. It kills headaches, pains in the back, and special weaknesses of women vanish when it is used. A man who, without having any special disease, suffers from general lack of energy, want of manly vigour and ambition, who is easily fatigued, and does not feel the aggressive strength of manhood, will derive new life from Vitæ-Ore—not by any sudden stimulation, but by a powerful tonic action which permanently benefits. Vitæ-Ore has made new men of thousands. You have a free and fair opportunity to try it for a whole month and see whether it will do the same for you. Fill up the coupon NOW.

It WILL Do you Good.

Girls who are bloodless and anæmic—pale, easily tired, short of breath when going upstairs—derive the most wonderful benefits from Vitæ-Ore.

You are asked to use Vitæ-Ore for a month and watch the result. You are to be the judge of the benefit. If the result is satisfactory—if Vitæ-Ore does you good—you pay 4s. 6d. for the whole month's supply. If you are not benefited, simply write and say so, and we ask nothing at all. It is a fair "no benefit—no pay" offer.

But Vitæ-Ore will do you good. It will strengthen and tone up your nerves and your whole system. Your digestion will be better, your eyes brighter, your skin and complexion clearer and younger-looking.

Do not delay. Take advantage of the offer at once. Fill in the coupon or copy it and post it to Theo. Noel Co., Ltd. (Dept. 19), 29, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

FILL IN OR COPY THIS COUPON FOR FREE TRIAL OF ONE MONTH'S SUPPLY.

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(Dept. 19), 29, Ludgate Hill,
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Dear Sirs,—

Please send me a month's supply of "Vitæ-Ore," with full directions and free book of particulars.

I will use it according to the "Directions," and promise to report results in 30 days.

If it does me good I will send you 4s. 6d. in payment for the month's course of treatment. If not, I will write and say so, and in that case YOU ARE TO CHARGE ME NOTHING.

Name.....

Address .....

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Phyllis Dare ON "Bobbed Hair"

"Suits many admirably—BUT—"

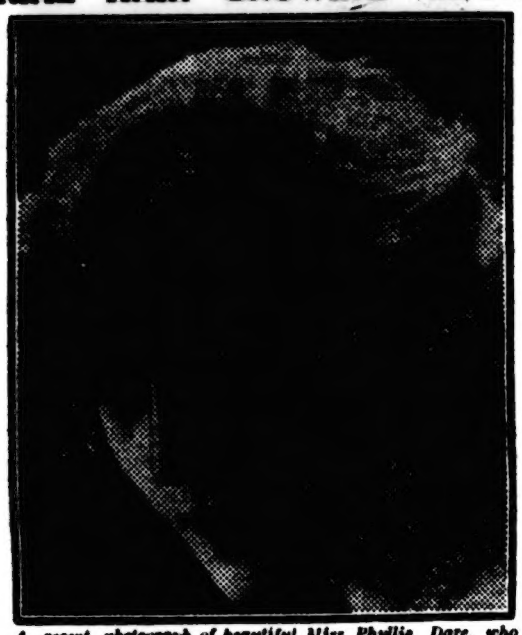
"HARLENE-HAIR-DRILL" ENTHUSIAST and LEADING BRITISH BEAUTY GIVES VALUABLE ADVICE.

1,000,000 "FREE TRIAL HAIR GROWING GIFTS."

The "Bobbed Hair Controversy" still waxes hot and strong. The great importance of the part the hair plays in the whole general appearance is such that even leaders of Society, Stage, and the Cinema World are giving this matter more serious attention than ever.

Among the leading British Beauties whose opinion everyone will be interested in reading is that of Miss Phyllis Dare, herself the possessor of a beautiful rich and abundant head of hair.

Miss Dare is NOT a "Shingler" or a "Bobber." She wears her luxuriant hair in its full natural beauty, a beauty she is only too pleased to enthusiastically record that "Harlene-Hair-Drill" helps her to display to the best advantage as well as maintain.



A recent photograph of beautiful Miss Phyllis Dare, who expresses her opinion on the "Bobbed Hair" question. She strongly recommends readers to adopt the "Hair Health" practice she has for so many years enjoyed, and which YOU may start FREE to-day.

ON "BOBBED HAIR."

Miss Dare, writing from the Lyric Theatre, a few weeks ago (October 25th, 1924), says:—

"I have a very open mind in regard whether hair should be "Bobbed," "Shingled," or kept long. But I really do think that 'Bobbing' and 'Shingling' suit many girls and young women admirably, and give a really attractive appearance. Of one thing I am certain, and that is, no matter how the hair is worn, it gains in beauty, sheen, and naturalness, if 'Harlene-Hair-Drill' is practised, for this has been my habit for the last few years."

WONDERFUL GIFT FOR YOUR HAIR.

Any reader of this newspaper may possess at once and FREE a full range of the identical hair-beautifying and hair-growing preparations as regularly used by Miss Phyllis Dare herself, in addition to an interminable host of other beautiful actresses, both "bobbed" and "unbobbed," throughout the whole world. Simply cut out the Free Coupon in this announcement and send to the Hair-Drill Headquarters, in accordance with the instructions given, and you will receive by return of post, no matter where you live:—

1. A Bottle of "Harlene," the true liquid food for the Hair. It is Tonic, Food, and Dressing in one.
2. A packet of "Cremex" Shampoos. This is an antiseptic purifier which thoroughly cleanses the hair and scalp of all scurf, etc., and prepares the Hair for the "Hair-Drill" treatment.
3. A bottle of "Uzon" Brilliantine, which gives a final touch of beauty to the hair, and is especially beneficial to those whose scalp is inclined to be "dry."
4. A copy of the new edition of the "Hair-Drill" Illustrated Manual of Instructions.

No obligation of any sort is entailed, and if you suffer from:—

1. Falling Hair	5. Scurf
2. Greasy Scalp	6. Over-Dry Scalp
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4. Dank and Lifeless Hair	8. Baldness

certainly you should not lose a minute in sending for your Free Gift Hair Health "Hair-Drill" Parcel.

This wonderful, magnanimous, and truly generous Free Offer no one (male or female) interested in their general appearance can possibly afford to pass by.

You are only asked to send the sum of 4d. in stamps to cover cost of postage and packing, and this Free 4-in-1 Gift will be despatched to your address.

After a Free Trial, you will be able to obtain further supplies of "Harlene" at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 9d. per bottle. "Uzon" Brilliantine at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle. "Cremex" Shampoo Powders at 1s. 6d. per box of seven shampoos (single packets 3d. each); and "Astol" for Grey Hair at 3s. and 5s. per bottle—from Chemists and Stores all over the world.

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Detach and post to EDWARDS' HARLENE, LTD., 20, 22, 24, and 26, Lamb's Conduit Street, London, W.C. 1.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me your Free "Harlene" Four-Fold Hair Growing Outfit, as described above. I enclose 4d. in stamps for postage and packing of the parcel.

JOHN BULL, 13/12/24.

NOTE TO READER.

Write your full name and address clearly on a plain piece of paper, pin this coupon to it, and post as directed above. Mark envelope "Sample Dept."

N.B.—If your hair is GREY, enclose extra 2d. stamp—6d. in all—and a FREE bottle of "Astol" Hair Colour Restorer will also be sent you.

YOURS for 6D.

18-ct. GOLD CASED KEYLESS LEVER WATCH

every reader of JOHN BULL should secure one of these valuable 18-ct. Gold Cased Lever Watches to-day. Offered on our unheard-of bargain terms. **Read Our Brief Description.** Gent's full-sized stout and handsomely engine turned 18-ct. Gold Cased Keyless Lever Watch. Accurately adjusted and timed lever movement, finest springs and materials throughout, with all latest improvements. Clear bold dial and figures, pen steel hands, best bevelled crystal glass. A handsome watch designed for hard wear and accurate time-keeping. Fully warranted five years.

OUR UNEQUALLED TERMS.—So sure are we that you will be MORE THAN SATISFIED, that we send this handsome watch post paid upon receipt of 6d. only. After receiving watch, if satisfied, you send 2/- more and the balance by instalments of 2/- a month until only 20/- is paid. Price, full cash with order (or within 7 days of receipt), 18/- only. Cash returned willingly if not absolutely satisfied, and watch is returned within 7 days. Send P.O. or stamps now to:—

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Complete ranges of Styles and Patterns of Coats, Robes, Costumes, &c., Post Free State which you require.

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has proved that so-called
TONSILS & ADENOIDS
are curable without operation
95 times in every 100 cases.
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Bronchitis, Catarrh and Whooping Cough are relieved at once by Potter's Asthma Cure. Makes your days comfortable and nights restful. Supplied by all medicine vendors, 1/3. Post free 1/9, from Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60, Artillery Lane, London, E.1.

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HEALTHY SPORT FOR XMAS.

20-page Pictorial, giving valuable shooting, netting, and trapping tips; also prices for latest Mauser permit-free pistols, safety revolvers, double lantern pocket pistols, pistol shape guns, stick guns, silent guns, moonlight guns, etc., etc. A merry time guaranteed. Book, 2d. only, post free.
GAVIN BELL (Dept. J.B.), 19, Thistle Street, GLASGOW, W.

Wonderful Women

Heroic Struggles for the Children's Sake

LAST week we mentioned a poor woman, the wife of a lamplighter, who, while her man was laid aside on a bed of sickness, had nobly shouldered the breadwinner's burden and trudged the streets night and morning, doing her husband's work so that their five little ones should not go short of food.

We could multiply indefinitely instances of the heroic conduct of such wonderful women in the face of misfortune.

In Manchester there is a Mons hero lying in the infirmary suffering from a fractured skull as the result of being knocked down by a motor-car while cycling home from his work. There is little hope of obtaining compensation for his injuries, and all that his wife has while he is incapacitated to support herself and three children, the eldest only six years old, is his small pension. Another baby is expected, but in spite of her condition this wonderful woman is bravely struggling to keep the home together by her own efforts.

In North London there is an ex-Service man whose mental condition as a result of shell-shock renders him incapable of earning a living. He has no pension, and there are three little ones to be fed and clothed. His wife does it by going out daily to work for the family. In a Sussex village there is an ex-soldier who has been seriously ill for the last three months. It may be many weeks before he is again fit for work. He has no pension, and his wife is working from morn till night to provide for the family of six.

IN Kentish Town there is an ex-officer who has suffered a series of misfortunes since the war and been compelled to sell up his home and lodge with his wife and two children in a little back room, where, while he is tramping the streets in search of employment, his devoted wife works with the needle to provide food.

Can you contemplate the quiet heroism of these wonderful women without feelings of admiration and pity? Do not thoughts of your own childhood stir you to sympathy for mothers who sacrifice themselves daily for their children's sakes?

Help us to visit their virtues on the children by providing them with the nourishment they so much need. Your subscriptions to "The Greatest of These—" Fund will lighten the burden of many a mother's heart, and bring to the little ones something of the season's joys

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by* JOHN BULL.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

H. Gillespie, parcel and 1s.; From Ninth, Richmond, 7s. 6d.; J. Gyles and Sons, 10s. 2d.; Miss L. Pratt, 1s.; Old Age Pensioner, 1s. 2d.; Mrs. Jess Andrews, 1s.; E. Purkiss, 1s.; M. Surcliffe, 3s.; Brechin, 1s.; W. Jardine, 2s. 6d.; A. Thom, 1s.; F. G. M., 2s. 6d.; F. Cooper, 1s.; M. Cooper, 1s. 6d.; W. Pogmor, 7d.; W. J. S., 10s.; Weekly 9th, 2d.; T. N., 1s.; W. F. Rees, 10s.; W. Cassell, 6d.; H. C., 1s.; Workman's Wife, 2d.; J. N. S., 1s. 6d.; Mrs. Maclean, 2s.; Felix, 2s. 3d.; Third 9th, Trusting, 2s.; "Pompica," 10s.; Sorry, 6d.; P. P., 3s.; J. L., 6d.; A Lucky One, 12s.; A. G., 5d.; Anon., 6d.; Every Little Helps, 2s. 6d.; "Dundee," 1s.; Leslie Clarke, 2s.; Thursday's Ninth, 4½d.; "Help One Another," B. D., 1s.; Betty's Ninth, 9d.; "Better Than Nothing," 1s. 6d.; "9128," 2 dollars; M. E. B., 6d.; H. B., 6d.; J. S. Garner, 4s. 6d.; M. A., 1s.; A. D., 3/9ths, 1s. 5d.; H. J. G., 2s.; H. F., 6d.; Nantyglo, 1s.; Ninth of My Luck, 1s. 6d.; J. B., 5s.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; C.-on-M., 7/9, 3½d.; Carnoustie, 2s.; Anon., 1s.; H. B. B., 2s. 6d.; G. Bick, 2s.; Widnes, 1s.; Mrs. M. Bellenie, 6d.; Struggler, 4½d.; "619742," 2s. 6d.; A. W. M., 6d.; "N.S.W.9," £1 5s.; "T. R., Hornsey," 5s.; Ppuit's Weekly Ninth, 3s.; J. J. Lynch, 10d.; A. Hannaford, 1s.; Miner's Wife, 6d.; Mrs. M. Hester, 5s.; Mrs. A. Trusler, parcel; Mrs. Richardson, parcel.

J. N. S., 9d.; Len, 5s.; "My Mistake," 1s.; T. E. D., 3s. 6d.; M. T. P., 7d.; "An Old Woman," 1s.; Chilbolton 9th, 4s.; A. G. W., 5s.; 100778B, 1s.; Grateful Lassie, 1s.; A. Thom, 1s.; B. Care, 13s.; P. Curtis, 1s.; "Ucalite," 2s.; C. A. Jenner, 1s. 7d.; J. N. S., 6d.; Alfreton, 1s.; "Wednesday's Luck," 6d.; ohrewsbury, 1s.; "Billy, Haslemere," 1s.; "Fire on the Hearth," £1; Phelo, 1s.; M. C., 3d.; Poor Woman, 1s.; E. Purkiss, 1s. 1d.; "My Third Ninth," 6d.; D. G. Ogle, 2s. 6d.; T. N. Hodgson, 1s.; Every Little Helps, 2s. 6d.; Anon., 2s.; Poult's Weekly Ninth, 4s. 6d.; Gander Green Lane, parcel; A. K., 10s.; "St. Agnes," 2s. 6d.; W. Cassell, 6d.; Long Tom, 1s.; My 7th 9th, P. D., 6d.; Caretaker, 5d.; Rangeworthy, 1s.; W. G. Burr, 6d.; Frenchwoman, Toulouse, 2s. 6d.; Ted's Ninth, 2s.; Widow's Mite, 3d.; A. E. Castle, 6d.; A. S., 2s. 6d.; H. Tilstone Harrison, 2s. 6d.; L. W., Parcel; S. C. J., parcel; M. E. H., parcel, Crewe, 6d.; Cheerful, Devon, 2s. 6d.; Thankful, 1s. 6d.; W. Fielding, 1s.; Lonely, 3d.; Mrs. E. G. Allen, 1s.; H. C., 1s.; Ezra, 1s.; A. J. W., 1s.; M. Taylor, 1s. 6d.; J. G. Stainthorpe, 6d.; "Pegsy," 6d.; Mrs. R. Bushnell, 1s.; A. W. Wear, 5 francs; Mrs. M. I., Read, 1s.; "Still Unlucky," 1s.; Widnes, 2s. 6d.; Musselburgh, 6d.; Pessimist, 6d.; E. H. C., 2s.; Watford, 2s. 6d.; Devonia, 6d.; Mrs. F. Brown, 5s.; Mary Thompson, 3s.; Clem, 6d.; R. Shepherd, 2s. 6d.; "Melton Mowbray," 2s.; "For Luck," 1s. 4d.; B. H. Rose, 2s.; Miss E. Hilton, 1s.; Sympathetic Reader, 3d.; Some Wishes, 6d.; A Ninth, 1s. 2d.; Mrs. J. Beeton, parcel and 1s.; F. and F., Spencer, parcel and 3s.; C.-on-M.79, 4½d.; E. C., 2s.; A. K. (Ashton-u.-Lyne), 10s.; A. Yates, 6d.; Reader of "John Bull," 3s.; W. J. White, 5s. 6d.; S. le Gallez, 6d.; E. E. W., 6d.; A. Greely, 9d.; Anon., 4d.; A. Atkinson, 6d.

(Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over)

"Bullets" £1 Prize-winners:

(Continued from page 35.)

Bristol; A. J. Percival (staff), Parcels Branch, G.P.O., L'pool.; T. Pye, 125, Pembroke Rd., Seven Kings, Ilford; G. M. Radwell, 40, Cornwall Rd., Bradford; M. Rawlinson, 23, St. Margaret's Rd., London, N.; Miss N. Richardson, 23, Bedfordwell Rd., Eastbourne; E. Riches, High Street, Coddenham, Ipswich; Mrs. C. Riley, 229, Broomhall St., Sheffield; W. Robertson, Colinsburgh, Fife; J. W. Rollett, 35, Villa St., Beeston, Notts; E. Sherran, 9, Kirkstall St., Ardwick, M/c.; Mrs. B. Simkiss, 1, Bruce Av., Greenbank, Bristol; C. F. Slade, 14, Mt. Edgcumbe Terr., Stoke, Devonport; Mrs. M. Smith, 81, Marsland St., Ardwick, M/c.; D. W. Smith, 49, Harbord St., Fulham, S.W.; B. Sparrow, 97, Darenth Rd., London, N.; J. G. Stebbings, 77, Fernbank Av., Sudbury Hill, Middx.; M. A. Stokoe, 10, Steel St., Consett, co. Durham; J. Story, 91, Kingscourt Rd., Streatham, S.W.; A. G. Street, 10, Lily Villas, East Rd., New Southgate, N.; A. Summersby, 49, Essex St., Reading; A. Swainson, 50, Copthorne St., Dirkhill, Bradford; Mrs. H. B. Taylor, 52, Churchill Rd., Bordesley Green, B'ham.; F. Thomas, 58, Kilravock St., Queen's Park, London, W.; W. H. Wadsworth, 111, Worsley, Mimes, Wigan; R. Walburn, 4, L'Espec St., Northallerton, Yorks; J. Wardlow, 35, Godolphin Rd., Shepherd's Bush, W.; Mrs. O. G. Warne, 21, Hartley Av., East Ham, E.; S. J. Warrick, 35, Hoveden Rd., Cricklewood, N.W.; Mrs. A. Watson, 7, Manor Rd., Scarborough; G. Wilson, 3, Railway Terr., Mortimer, Berks; F. Wood, 33, John St., Wordsley, nr. Stourbridge, Worcs.

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness, and originality.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, and a postal order enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of, which must be made payable to JOHN BULL, and crossed and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matters of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible to compete.

TURKEY WINNERS.—A complete list of 300 Turkey Prize-winners in Competition No. 543 will be sent on receipt of a halfpenny stamped and addressed envelope. This list, together with the 200 5/- Prize-winners will also be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal," on sale Wednesday, December 17th. A list of all Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the offices of JOHN BULL.

SPECIAL NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £2, and £1 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the three chief "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 543 have purchased their copies of "John Bull."

RESULT OF "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 543.

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:

Mr. H. O. JEFFERY,
420, Park View, Whitley Bay.
Example :—When He Woke Up
Bullet :—Thought Preacher Said "Winners."

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:

Mr. T. J. HARRY, 69, Crown Street, Morriston, Swansea.
Example :—What Is A Wife?
Bullet :—Like Asking Chameleon's Colour.

THIRD PRIZE OF £50:

Mr. G. BROWN, 76, Heaton Street, Denton, Manchester.
Example :—What Is A Wife?
Bullet :—Private Prosecutor—Public Defender.

FOURTH PRIZE OF £25:

Mr. H. ALLAN, 38, Addison Road, Hove.
Example :—Other People's Troubles
Bullet :—Mustn't Make "Jacks" "Bobbies."

FIFTH PRIZE OF £10:

Mr. G. GILBERT, 6, Townsley Street, Belfast.
Example :—When He Kissed Her
Bullet :—What Amateur Actor Remembered.

10 Prizes of £5 each:

Mrs. S. Addison, 74, Derby Road, Northampton.
Letting The Cat Out—Labelling Chair "Latest Antique."
R. Buck, 14, Albion Terrace, Gaywood Road, King's Lynn.
What The Money-lender Said—Discussed Over Workhouse Fire.
W. Cardwell, The Rock, Hagley, Worcs.
Irritating—Indigestion After Feeding Cold.
D. H. Coate, 106A, East Street, Southampton.
What Is A Wife?—Despot Complaining Of Slavery.
Miss V. Cooper, "Aram" Cottage, Bath Road, Lymington, Hants.
Happy Sequel—Of Sedition, Patriots Reunited.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
G. Edwards, 1, Chapel Lane, Quatford, Bridgnorth, Salop.
Pleasing Her—Becomes Harder With Practice.
L. C. Hart, 329, Lake Road, Portsmouth.
Wolf At The Door—Probably Attracted By Foxtrotting.
E. Hurst, 6/17, Cranworth Gardens, Brixton, S.W.
Changing Views—Tatooed Lady Growing Stout.
G. Pinnington, Ivy House, Greenhill Road, Allerton, near Liverpool.
Pleasing Her—Burglar Wiped His Boots.
Mrs. J. R. Wilson, 11, Lily Lane, Moston, Manchester.
Work And Play—Better "Tandem" Than "Abreast."

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

Mrs. C. L. Beckey, 41, Chelsea Road, Southsea.
In Hospital—Motorist—Pedestrian Climbed Lamp-post.
E. C. Brown, 79, Mansfield Street, Sherwood, Notts.
Why He Yawned—At Revue, Swimming Instructor.
G. Coulthard, 187, Northumberland Road, Southampton.
Pleasing Her—Mother, Like Stroking Hedgehog.
Rev. W. P. Hughes, 68, St. Mark's Road, Salisbury.
Dangerous Subject—Distrusts Breed—Breeds Distrust.
S. R. Jacks, 110, Victoria Road, Aston, Birmingham.
Wolf At The Door—Emigrant Thought Canadian Postman.
F. Kerswell, 56, Lawrence Hill, Bristol.
Nursing Trade—Imprisoned Forger Studying Engraving.
T. F. Shepherd, Ravensworth Castle, nr. Gateshead.
When He Woke Up—Buzzer Was Wife's Voice.
J. Taylor, 189, Moss Street, Blackburn.
When He Kissed Her—Formerly, Wasn't So Formally.
W. Ward, 56, Blackburn Road, Accrington.
Why He Yawned—Scholar's Hand Contained Toffee.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)
R. Wilkinson, 2, West Houses, Cullercoats, Northumberland.
Letting The Cat Out—"Can You Croak, Grandad?"

100 Prize-winners of £1:

W. J. Adams, 261, Edward St., Nuneaton; Miss G. Alderson, "Holmside," Milvain Av., Newcastle; C. W. Avery, 9, Jesu St., Ottery St. Mary, Devon; J. Baldwin, 4, North Ribble St., Walton-le-Dale, Preston; W. A. Bass, 15, Rhodes St., Hanley, Sta s; W. S. Bell, 11, High St., Barnstaple; Mrs. A. Blackburn, 53, Steadman Terr., Leeds Rd., Bradford; V. Blameris, 7, Leyburne St., Bradford; T. Botting, 24, Gloucester Place Mews, Montagu Sq., W.; Miss N. Brazier, 34, Ashdale Rd., Mossley Hill, L'pool.; F. G. Browning, The Barrack, Shrewsbury; Miss F. Buckley, 34, Ashgrove, Greengates, nr. Bradford; Miss E. Butterworth, Aspin Cottage, Gresham Rd., Edgware; J. Carlin, "The Willows," Bleasby, Notts; H. Cheshire, 11, Springfield Rd., New Southgate, N.; W. M. Currie, 30, Carson St., Larne, Ireland; E. Cutler, Parcels Clerk, L.M. & S. Rly., Nottingham; J. A. Dare, 4, Julia Terr., Burnham-on-Sea; J. Donson, 27, Little Hallam, Ilkeston; Mrs. J. M. Dowty, Bitterne Pharmacy, Southampton; C. V. Durham, 3, Almington St., Finsbury Park, N.; E. Egan, 74, Brougham St., Preston; J. W. Elger, 100, New Rd., Woodston, Peterborough; A. Elley, 23, Cuthbert St., Hebburn-on-Tyne; Miss Evason, c/o Mrs. McLeavy, Wirral Hotel, New Ferry, Ches.; Miss K. Gardner, 20, Lansdowne St., Hove; Mrs. W. E. Gardner, 36, Gold St., Northampton; Mrs. R. A. Gillett, 182, Wantage Rd., Reading; T. Godmon,

(Continued in next column.)

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 545.

FATHER CHRISTMAS
BROUGHT TO LIGHT
BLACKMAIL
AFTER MIDNIGHT
NEXT BEST THING
MY PRESENT
IN THE SHOP
BIG NOISE
WAITING FOR HER
ARM OF THE LAW
FINGER IN THE PIE
BEST APART
OVERDONE
LONG FACE
WHAT THE OFFICIAL SAID
MORE OR LESS
COSTS NOTHING
WHEN SHE WAKES UP
NEVER NOTICED
LAW OF NATURE
HOME-MADE
ALWAYS POLITE
A COLD
LONG JOURNEY
ON FIRM GROUND
MODERN PLAY
SLEEPLESS NIGHT
TAUGHT YOUNG
HIS PIPE
FILM HERO
ON WHEELS
WHAT IS A PROFITEER?

114, Hope St., Sheerness; J. H. Gowland, 14, Minnies Grove, Hawthorbe Av., Hull; J. Gollings, Brill, Bucks; Mrs. M. Grantham, 13, Haig Av., Cadishead, M/c.; J. P. Greenly, 6, Bath Rd., Southsea; J. W. Greenwood, 119, Huddersfield Rd., Oldham; E. Harber, 4, Mates Nest, Balcombe, Sussex; T. Harper, 25, Trongate, Glasgow; Mrs. M. Harrison, 18, Fleetwood Rd., Dollis Hill, N.W.; C. W. Hatfield, 9, Church View, Darfield, nr. Barnsley; R. J. Heathcott, 812, Fishponds Rd., Bristol; F. H. Hill, 25, East Rd., London, N.; R. Hill, "Northolme," Braystones, Cumberland; T. J. Hill, 25, Chaucer St., Leicester; F. R. Hodgson, 33, Conway St., Hopwood Lane, Halifax; E. Horton, Convalescent Home, Mablethorpe; Miss A. E. Hughes, 27, Fairfield St., Highfields, Leicester; A. G. Hull, 11, Hulse Rd., Salisbury; Miss E. Hussey, 16, King Edward Mans., Shaftesbury Av., London, W.; Mrs. E. R. James, 6, Burleigh Terr., St. Ives, Huntingdon; A. Johnson, c/o Y. Manor Rd., Hoylake, Cheshire; W. Jones, Spring Grove, Bewdley, Worcs.; J. Keelan, 94, Kildare St., Middlesbrough; G. M. Kennett, 14, White Hawk Rd., Brighton; W. King, 11, Gt. Sutton St., Clerkenwell, London, E.C.; T. G. Lawn, 33, Allen Rd., Beckenham; H. Leopold, 53, Bartholomew Rd., Kentish Town, N.W.; E. Leslie, 34, Ifield Rd., London, S.W.; Mrs. A. Lightbody, 2, Wood St., Glasgow; J. McGorrin, 8, Wynne St., L'pool.; E. Magrath, 200, Stapleton Rd., Bristol; Miss E. L. Mason, Broomfield Cottage, S. Reddish, Stockport; R. W. Merriman, 244, Victoria Pk. Rd., S. Hackney, E.; J. A. Middleton, Kensington Cafe, Kensington, L'pool.; S. J. Molyneux, 31, Penny Lane, Newton-le-Willows; P. Nethercott, Lower Village, South Mimms, Barnet; S. Oliver, 22, St. Stephen's Rd., Seely Park, B'ham.; Mrs. A. F. Oxenbury, 24, Holmside Av., Gillingham; J. Palmer, 44, Sixth Av., Clipstone Colliery, Mansfield; E. Partridge, 1, Leon Pl., Godwin St., Ashted, B'ham.; H. Pascoe, 40, Marston Rd., Knowle,

(Continued on page 34)

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS" — NO LETTER RESTRICTIONS.

Choose any of the *Examples* printed; then give any **Two, Three, or Four Words** having some bearing on the *Examples* chosen, each of which can begin with any letter in the alphabet. These specimens will guide you :—

Example :—Winston Churchill *Bullet* :—Past-master Past Can't Master.
Example :—What The Prisoner Said *Bullet* :—"In—On Twelve Votes!"
Example :—The Cause *Bullet* :—Of Rowdyism, Truth Unanswerable.

ENCLOSE A POSTAL ORDER AT THE RATE OF 6d. FOR EACH COUPON USED.

ADDRESS ALL COUPONS TO "Bullets" No. 545, John Bull, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 18.

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(545) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 34. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 18.

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(545 P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 34. With 2 Coupons send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

"Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 18.

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(545 P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 34. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 18.

Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(545 P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 34. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you desire to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper

SELECTION OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 546.

OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY—EMPTY STOCKING—THE OTHER SIDE—KING BABY—AFTER FIRST WEEK—GUIDING STAR—WHAT THE BACHELOR SAID—TAKING WIFE—EASIER SAID THAN DONE—BEST CURE—INQUISITIVE—LIKE ME—WHEN SHE GETS HOME—MAGIC CARPET—WHY FATHER LEFT—SEX WAR—EASY TO TELL—I EXPECT—ON THE BILL—WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

These Examples can be made use of on the Coupons on this page, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, JANUARY 1.** All coupons so used **MUST** be marked clearly with the number **546** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these Coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. **546**, John Bull, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the thirty-two Examples for Competition No. **546.**

Next Week—"Bullets" First Prize £500!

The reason why Monkey Brand is the most economical of all household cleaners is because it is concentrated in solid cake form.

Cook you see in armchair sitting
Smiling as she does her knitting;
Every pot and every pan
In its place quite spick and span,
Because she took the helping hand
Held out to her by Monkey Brand

MONKEY BRAND

WON'T WASH CLOTHES

BENJAMIN BROOKE & CO. LTD.

R 207—167

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